

FORGERIES MISCELLANEOUS
(2)

DRAWER

6A

FORGERIES

71.2009.025.05535

Lincoln Forgeries

Miscellaneous (2)

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

FRED MILLS
SIGN OF THE COACH & FOUR
EARLY NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUES
ANCIENT FIREARMS
OLD DEERFIELD, MASS.

July 23, 1947

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Director Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne
Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren;

Mr. Stefan Lorant, author of the artical in last weeks
Saturady Evening Post on Lincoln Material, has given me your name and
address as one that might be interested in one of Lincoln's autographs.

This autograph is in a small autograph album I received
from a client and, as autographs are somewhat out of my line I wrote to
Mr. Lorant, so as to give the lady a square deal. I have no idea what it
is worth.

In the same album is another presidential autograph and
several more famous ones, as follows.

Abraham Lincoln November 19 1863
Rutherford B Hayes 20th. July 1877
Victor Hugo
L(ouise) M. Alcott
John Howard Payne
Tennyson
Whittier
Oliver Wendell Holmes
William Collen Bryant
Henry W. Longfellow
William Makepiece Thackery
And some others that I cannot decipher.

If you are not interested in The Lincoln autograph would you be so kind
as to put me in touch with someone that might be, together with an idea
of its fair value.

Thanking you for this curtesy I am

Cordially yours

F.P.L. Mills
F.P.L. Mills
Architect

August 7, 1947

Mr. F. P. L. Mills
Deerfield, Mass.

My dear Mr. Mills:

We have here at least four different autograph books in which the name of Abraham Lincoln has been written and we have paid all the way from \$15.00 to \$25.00 for them

. If you care to send on the one you have for approval we would be willing to look it over and see how much significance there are in the names inscribed. You might have it insured and, of course, The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company who sponsors our Foundation would be entirely responsible for its safe return in case we do not acquire it.

Very truly yours,

LAW:WC

Director

FRED MILLS
SIGN OF THE COACH & FOUR
EARLY NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUES
ANCIENT FIREARMS
OLD DEERFIELD, MASS.

Aug 14, 1947

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne
Indiana

My dear Dr. Warren;

Thank you very much for your kind letter of the 7th.
I have communicated with my client and she is willing that I should
send the autograph album for your inspection and I am doing so under
separate cover with this mail.

I have no idea what to insure it for but will put on
a normal sum. I will leave it to you to name a fair price for the album
if it proves anything that you want. It seems to me that all those
other famous names should be of some value, beside that of Lincoln and
Hayes.

You see, when a Gwinnett signature brings \$28,000, people
think that a Lincoln signature is worth in the thousands too, so
you can imagine the disappointment of my client..

Sincerely yours


F.P.L. Mills
Architect

Autograph Book Torgue

August 20, 1947

Mr. F.P.L. Mills
Old Deerfield, Massachusetts

My dear Mr. Mills:

Thanks very much for forwarding the signature book but I am very sure that we would not care to acquire it.

We are returning it insured and trust it may arrive safely.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director

*All this former signature book by
Lancelotti are imprints not originals*

THE COLLECTOR:

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THE COLLECTOR
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COSEY AGAIN?

Repeatedly this office has cautioned readers of *THE COLLECTOR* to be on their guard against forgeries. However, despite these warnings and numerous articles in nationally circulated newspapers and magazines, nothing seems to prevent individuals, whether collectors of autographs or not, from being trapped into buying fakes when the opportunity arises. The lure of a "possible" Lincoln, a "probable" Franklin, or a "very authentic looking" Washington gets the better of them. In my book, "Autographs: a Key to Collecting" (R. R. Bowker Co., 1946), considerable space is devoted to the subject of forgeries and to the careers of the best-known forgers, such as Chatterton, Denis-Lucas, "Antique" Smith, Alberti, Gerstenbergk, Spring, Byron, and, in recent years, Cosey and Weisberg. I particularly drew attention to the handiwork of Joseph Cosey, whose record should be known to all, and whose career bears watching. Cosey was at his zenith in the last decade, and at this time the market was flooded with his spurious examples of Lincoln, Franklin, Mary Baker Eddy—the latter, to the best of my knowledge, never having been attempted by anyone but Cosey. Indeed, these became so common that even the dealers in remote sections of the country caught on to the fraud and were on the alert. But his productions became progressively less authentic looking, and gradually disappeared from the market.

The reason for the present article is to

advertise as widely as possible to all and sundry a new influx of forgeries. The recent specimens which have been sent or brought in to me bear a striking resemblance to known examples of Cosey's versatile work, examples which he admitted to be his some years ago. As it is a distinct possibility that he may be up to his old tricks again, I think it wise to pass on the information given about him in "Autographs: a Key to Collecting."

"[Joseph] Cosey, the name by which he is generally referred to, according to an article in the New York Sun, November 13, 1941, has a career checkered with jail terms and convictions — nine in all, for grand larceny, carrying concealed weapons, forging checks, and various other crimes. He is known, like 'Antique' Smith, for his great skill, and, in addition, for the inordinate pride he took in his forgeries. He began, as he admitted to Mr. G. William Bergquist, then Special Investigator of the New York Public Library, whose tact and patience were largely responsible for the full exposure of both Cosey and Weisberg, with stealing from the Congressional Library a pay warrant signed by Benjamin Franklin. This he offered to a book dealer, who scornfully refused it as unauthentic. Cosey, he himself explained, was angered to the point of taking up diligent practice in handwriting imitations and succeeded so well that, to quote Mr. Bergquist's lecture before the Bibliographical Society in January, 1943, 'A year later, he had the satisfaction of selling a forged Lincoln to the same store.'

"Soon he began a series of experiments in the making of ink, at first using Waterman's brown correspondence ink, and later one that was more accurate. He obtained paper from various sources and was lucky in unearthing a supply bearing Moinier's 1851 water-mark and of a blue color identical with the paper on which many of Lincoln's authentic legal documents were written. He claimed he had acquired this paper in an old ledger which he had bought in Peoria. Cosey's vanity led him to boast untruthfully that he himself had manufactured another supply of long white paper which bore the water-mark, 'T. Ed-

monds, 1824,' but this stock Mr. Bergquist eventually traced to its right source.

"Cosey, who had good reason to be proud of his Lincoln forgeries on the Moinier paper, had mastered Lincoln's writing in an astonishing manner. Once his supply of this paper gave out, and he could not obtain proper substitutes, his subsequent forgeries were more easily detectable. For the most part, he did not attempt Lincoln A.L.S.s but rather devoted himself to the production of lengthy legal manuscripts and pleadings of the Civil War President. With these he was singularly generous for a forger. Many of them covered three or four folio pages. Regardless of whether he wrote a one- or four-page item, he sold each at a fairly uniform price. Originally, it is said, this ran as high as \$20 to \$50, but he later disposed of them at \$2 each.

"The Lincoln forgeries were only a small fraction of Cosey's output. Items of Francis Bacon, John Marshall, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Lynch, Jr., Button Gwinnett, Aaron Burr, John Adams, Samuel Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Twain, Mary Baker Eddy and others were believed to have been put on the market by him at various times. And, sadly enough, a goodly number of them still appear at sales. His best work was with his Franklins, Poes and Lincolns, and, of the latter, the most irritatingly acceptable of his forgeries are Lincoln endorsements, which he wrote on authentic Civil War records. These he docketed with three or four lines signed in the President's hand. So perfectly were they executed that only experts, by sharp examination of the ink, which alone provided the clue, could detect them.

"In his work Cosey resorted to many stratagems. For example, knowing that a certain famous man used a particular color of stationery, he dyed his own paper with Tintex to the required shade. This device was, however, among his less successful. Even more clever was his custom of composing a letter on old paper and then writing a modern letter to authenticate the forgery. Again, a great number of his forgeries carry endorsements in blue or red pencil or in ink different in color from that used in the body of the document. Such endorsements, written obliquely across some portion of the paper, appear quite frequently on authentic manuscripts, and Cosey was quick to catch on and use this subtle imitation.

"Nor was he averse to piling up his effects through association, as is illustrated by the

following item, dated Mount Vernon, June 12, 1779, which, were it genuine, would command a substantial price. Owned by the New York Public Library, it begins:

To the

Hon. P. Henry,

House of Burgesses

Dear Sir:

Thank you for submitting this map of ancient symbols. I am sure that John Marshall will find in it just what he seeks for his new book.

Cordially yours,

Richard Henry Lee

This was purportedly in the handwriting of Lee, the Virginia Signer, with his signature, and, below it, dated on the same day, appears 'Endorsed by me Th. Jefferson,' presumably written by that patriot. Then follows:

My dear Mr. Henry:

There remains nothing for me to do but add my approval, since Mr. Lee and yourself have endorsed the drawings therein.

As ever,

G. Washington

Next comes, dated June 16, 1779, from Washington City:

Hon. John Marshall,

Richmond in Virginia

Sir:

Here is a map which was kindly given to me by Doctor Priestly. If you will examine figures 1 to 9 and all of them with the exception of 11, 12 & 13 you will see the various periods represented of which we are speaking. I showed this to the Continental General, and he expressed a desire to use it when you have finished it.

Mr. Adams of Boston has promised to send me some maps showing old money and coins used in the period of which you are writing. These are very fine steel engravings, and I hope they will be of some aid to you in your book.

Yours very sincerely,

P. Henry

"Cool craft also characterized Cosey's methods of marketing. For instance, he never stated that he was offering a Lincoln, or a Poe or a Franklin. He simply presented a paper with the remark that he had found it in an attic or cellar and knew nothing of its value, adding, 'Do you think it is anything of interest?' His carefully chosen victim, seeing an excellently executed forgery and per-

haps thinking he knew sufficient of the signer's writing to judge properly, not unnaturally jumped to the conclusion intended. If he considered the letter authentic under the circumstances, Cosey unselfishly shunted the responsibility over to him."

In the chapter on detection of forgeries, I commented and repeat here: "Always there are certain danger signals which the collector, who habitually adopts a mild attitude of suspicion, can often see clearly. He should be initially skeptical of the authenticity of any letter excellent in contents or of any A.L.S. of an eminent historical personage if it is offered at a nominal price. Such an autograph may have been stolen or, more likely, is not genuine. The forger caters to the collector's supposed covetousness for a fine item, backed by a natural desire to obtain a bargain. The gambler's instinct — and greed traps more victims than ignorance — prompts the conclusion that five, ten or twenty-five dollars can be sacrificed on the chance that a rare item may prove genuine. Not the gambler, but the forger, who has once more played his old game, is the one who usually wins out."

The "mild attitude of suspicion," although exercised by the dealers, should apparently have been a more moving force. They, more than private collectors, have in recent weeks fallen prey to the person marketing these forgeries. "Fallen prey" may be too strong a term, since generally only \$2.50 to \$3 has been offered by the dealers, on the understanding that if the items are proved genuine they will gladly pay the difference in value. But this token offering is just what the seller wants. Inconceivable as it appears, he seems fully satisfied with these paltry sums.

For the present, the source of supply has been mainly upstate New York, in Albany and Schenectady, and in New Haven, Connecticut, and Springfield, Massachusetts. Whether the forgeries, which are extremely poor ones as to both paper and ink, are old ones, made five to ten years ago, or a fresh supply, there is no way of knowing. Certainly they are of the same general type as the old ones. The Lincolns are usually of a legal nature, and purport to be in the handwriting of and signed by Lincoln; the Franklins are generally the D.S. type, pay warrants or what are commonly referred to in the trade as the "In Council" documents, these two words generally appearing at the top of the quarto page. Franklin actually did sign many authentic "In Council" docu-

ments, and these are frequently countersigned by John Nicholson, at right angles to the main text, which appears in both written and printed form. This countersignature the forger has noted and also imitated. Other Franklin forgeries (which seem at this time to be the most numerous) are countersigned by Richard Henry Lee or other important or unimportant persons. The Mary Baker Eddy item recently offered is a quotation signed on an octavo sheet, written on both sides, from her "Science and Health."

At the time that Cosey was offering his variety of forgeries some years ago, a description of him was spread abroad, and when dealers saw a "gaunt, bushy-haired Irishman," as John Kobler pictured him in the Saturday Evening Post article of March 13, 1943, entitled "Trailing the Book Crooks," they were extremely cautious about buying from him. More recently he has been described as being a man of slight build, weighing perhaps one hundred and thirty-five pounds, about five feet five or six in height, and appearing to be about fifty years of age. Actually he is older than this. His hair is turning gray, his eyes are blue, and he appears almost emaciated, so thin and drawn is his face. Since he is not in jail at this time, it is not inappropriate to give the above description of him as ready reference. There is always the possibility that he might like to try his hand once again in an art at which he was certainly a past master.

With regard to the latest peddler of forgeries, I give below descriptions of this man, sent me by three dealers who had transactions with him. The first wrote: "We bought them from a short wizzled-up man who claimed he was a driver for the City Mission, which is the local equivalent of the Salvation Army." The second dealer, whose Franklin document was accompanied by a pencilled memorandum signed "Francis S. Miles," stated: "The man . . . was a very small light complexion man. The receipt he signed is filed under his name and I cannot remember the name. The enclosed memorandum was with the Franklin document. It may not be difficult to trace Francis S. Miles. For the amount we paid for this document, it would not pay anyone to do the forging."

The third dealer gave the most detailed description of all: "The man who presented the spurious Lincoln document was a poorly dressed individual who represented himself as being an employee of the Salvation Army. He looked and acted the part. He had a re-

ceipted bill with him showing that this document had been sold by McDonough Book Store of Albany (long out of business) for \$75. We have since been unable to find this receipt. He made promises of bringing down a lot of valuable books and other things which he had accumulated but we never saw him again which aroused my suspicion. When making the deal to purchase this item, his actions and manner were what would be used by a man of little intelligence. He did not know what price he wanted — anything I cared to give. I told him that I would give him \$3 and if he would come back within about a week, I would then pay him the difference, so that I would have time to investigate the item. This he agreed to do but never showed back. It is very evident that the forgery business must have arrived at a very low state when they would make up this item for \$3. If in the meanwhile we find the receipted bill I described herein, I shall send it to you. The man appeared to be about five feet four or five inches and rather a light-weight, as my memory recalls, about fifty years old." —M. A. B.—

AUTOGRAPH BIBLIOGRAPHY (Continued from May, 1947, Collector)

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- Contents.—t. I. Chirographie, ou Copie figuree de l'écriture originale des hommes illustres qui ont le plus marque, sous le regne de Louis XIV . . . rassemblée par m. le general Grimoard. Avertissement sur

les écrits de Louis XIV, et sur tout ce qui compose la collection de ses oeuvres, par m. Grouvelle. Considerations nouvelles sur Louis XIV, par le meme. Memoires historiques et politiques . . . 1. ptie.—t. II. Memoires historiques et politiques, 2 ptie.—t. III-IV. Memoires et pieces militaires. t. V. Lettres particulieres.—t. VI. Suite des lettres particulieres. Opuscules litteraires: Les Commentaires de Jule-Cesar, tr. par Louis XIV; Amusemens poetiques. Additions aux Oeuvres de Louis XIV, contenant des pieces historiques ou anecdotiques, servant d'eclaircissemens et de supplemens aux écrits de ce monarque.

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- "Le Manuscrit autographe est une revue . . . qui reproduit en facsimile, ou en typographie, des textes et des autographes inedits des plus grands ecrivains de notre litterature."

(To be continued)

April 25th/57.

Highland Creek. Ont.
Box 267.

Dear Mr. McMurty:

I was interested in your article, "The Lincoln cult. in the Feb. 16th post.

My Grandfather was, order of the day in Lincoln's house the night Mr Lincoln was shot.
I have a \$2.⁰⁰ note signed by Mr Lincoln

It is "The Treasurer of the Ohio Rail Road.
Chartered, Mar. 8th/1836.

We compared the signature in the post and they are identical. So I wondered if you would be interested.

Helen Tullock.

Box 267 Highland Creek. Ont.
phone AT. 2-~~7~~7379.

AT. 2. 7379.

CAPITAL STOCK, \$4,000,000.

Chartered March 3rd 1838

PERPETUAL

2



2



THE TREASURER OF

The Ohio R.R. Road

Will pay

TWO DOLLARS

on demand to

or bearer at their Office in

Ohio City

Secy



A. Lincoln

Pres.

April 29, 1957

Miss Helen Tulloch
Box 267
Highland Creek, Ontario, Canada

Dear Miss Tulloch:

I have your letter of April 25.

I am pleased to learn that you read the Saturday Evening Post article of February 16.

Your \$2.00 note bearing Lincoln's signature sounds quite interesting will you send it to me by registered mail so that I may examine it.

Is the item for sale? If so I would like to purchase it if your price is right. If you do not wish to sell the autograph I will return the note to you by return mail, registered.

Yours sincerely,

RGM:ss

R. Gerald McMurtry

May 3rd /57.

Box 267.

Highland Creek. Ont.

Mr. R. G. Mc Murtry
Fort Wayne. Indiana.

Dear Mr. Mc Murtry.

Your letter of April 29th rec. and I am
registering the note. I would like to see
it. What would it be worth?

I also have my Grandfather's discharge
paper & on the back is a message
written about the Infantry. The message
is about W. G. Joy. & it looks like Capt.
Milroy. The message is so faded it is
hard to read. but it might be blown
up to be readable.

Sincerely
(Mrs) Helen Tullock.

May 6, 1957

Mrs. Helen Tulloch
Box 267
Highland Creek, Ontario

Dear Mrs. Tulloch:

Today I received your Ohio Rail Road note bearing the signature of A. Lincoln.

I will admit that I am fascinated with it. It certainly looks like a genuine signature.

However, I cannot bring myself around to believe that Lincoln would sign this note "A. Lincoln" as President of the Ohio Rail Road. He is not known to have had any contact with this railroad, and certainly he was never a president of a railroad company.

I like the note because it is a curiosity. I am making a collection of forgeries and if I owned the note I would place it in our files. I know our many visitors would look on this note with mixed emotions.

What are you asking for it? I would like very much to buy it if your price is reasonable.

I will keep the note until I hear from you. I will return the note if I cannot pay the price you ask.

What are you asking for your grandfather's discharge papers? I am of the opinion that Lincoln did not sign discharge papers, but that the signature is printed.

Yours sincerely,

RGM:ss

R. Gerald McMurtry

P.S. I enclose a stamped self addressed envelope for your reply.

6
May 30th 1857.
Highland Creek. Ont.
Box 267.

Dear Mr. M^r Murtry

Rec. your letter offering \$5.⁰⁰/₂ for the Lincoln note. I would have written sooner, but my husband had a heart-attack, so was unable to write you.

If we didn't need the money, I would be glad to give the note to the foundation. but I expect he will be away from work for several months. so I thought perhaps I might get more money from a collector of rare money.

I do not know of any such persons here in Canada, but I thought I would write some American papers.

Yours Sincerely
Helen M. Tullock.

June 4, 1957

Miss Helen M. Tullock
Box 267
Highland Creek, Ontario
Canada

Dear Miss Tullock:

I received your letter of May 30 and I returning to you the old piece of currency bearing the so called signature of Abraham Lincoln. I am indeed sorry to have to part with this interesting item. I fear that you will not be able to get \$5.00 for the piece of currency because such items do not bring a great deal in the currency market.

If you find that you cannot dispose of it for more then \$5.00 I would be very glad to have you return it to me.

I trust that the currency will be received by you in good condition. I am sending it of course by registered mail.

I am indeed sorry to learn that your husband has had a heart attack. I sincerely hope that he will recover completely.

Hoping to hear from you at some future date regarding this piece of money, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

RGM:dh

Director

The Fine Library
of the Late
CHARLES H. MORSE

LINCOLN LOTS
Nos. 88-114 INC.

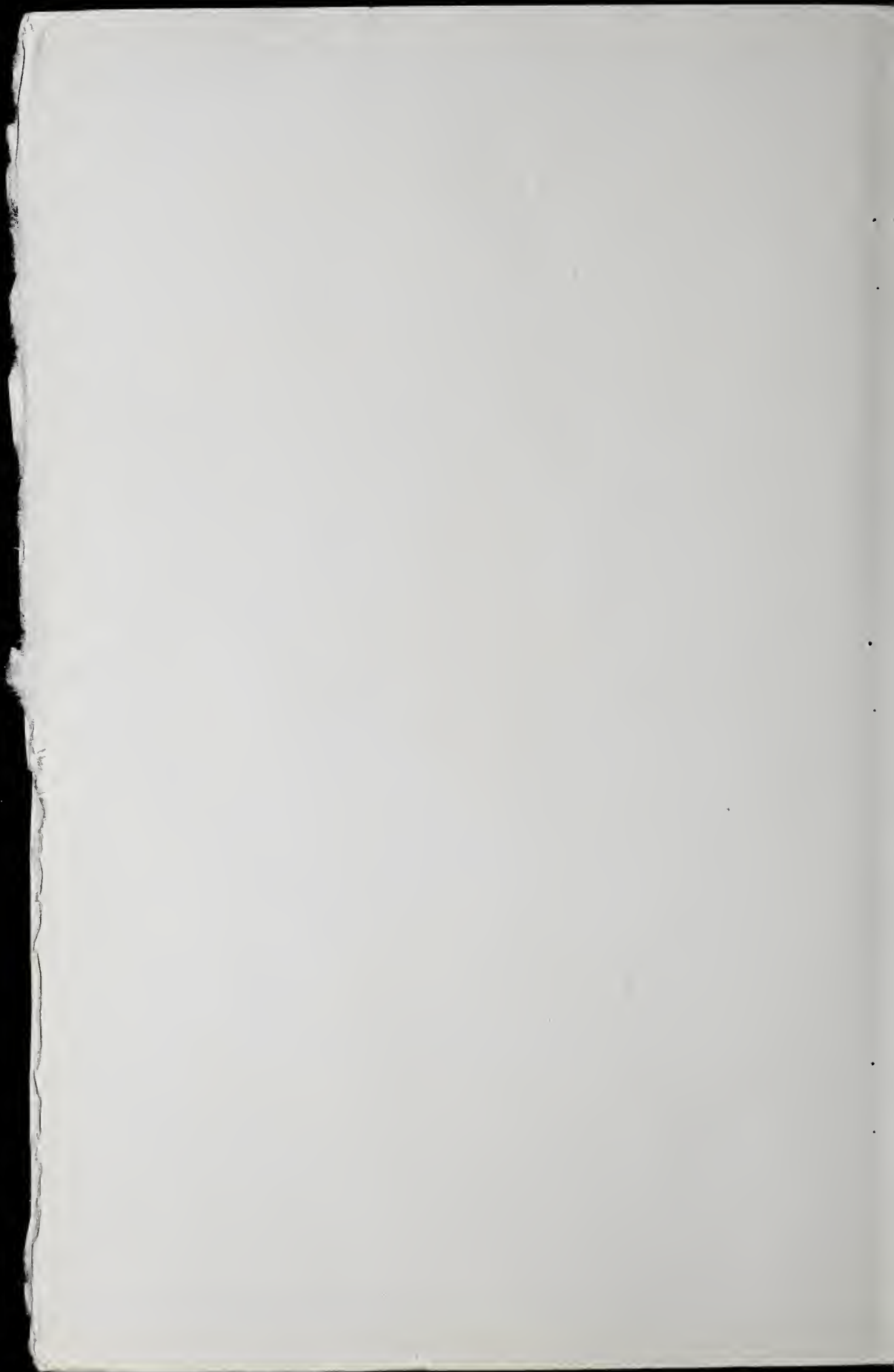


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BLUE INK

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8. Except as herein otherwise provided, title will pass to the highest bidder upon the fall of the auctioneer's hammer, and thereafter the property is at the purchaser's sole risk and responsibility.
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right to hold the purchaser liable for the bid price, the Galleries, at its option, may either (a) cancel the sale, in which event all payments made by the purchaser shall be retained as liquidated damages, or (b) resell the same without notice to the purchaser and for the purchaser's account and risk, either publicly or privately, and, in such event, the purchaser shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency plus all costs, including warehousing, the expenses of both sales, and the Galleries' commissions at its regular rates. All property not promptly removed by the purchaser may be removed by the Galleries to a warehouse for the account and risk and at the expense of the purchaser.

10. Items or categories in this catalogue which are subject to the Federal Excise Tax on jewelry, clocks, silver, gold, furs, etc., are designated by an asterisk (*). Unless acquired by a registered dealer for resale, the purchaser will be required to pay, in addition to the amount of his bid, the Federal Excise Tax equivalent to 10 per cent of the bid.

11. Unless exempt from the payment thereof, the purchaser will also be required to pay the New York City sales tax of 3 per cent of the bid.

12. The Galleries, without charge for its services, will undertake to make bids on behalf of responsible parties approved by it, subject to the Conditions of Sale and to such other terms and conditions as it may prescribe. The Galleries reserves the right, however, to decline to undertake to make such bids and when undertaking to make such bids shall in no case be responsible for failing correctly to carry out instructions.

13. The Galleries, at the purchaser's risk and expense, will facilitate the employment of carriers and packers for the purchaser's account, but will not be responsible for their acts in any respect whatsoever.

14. Any and all claims of a purchaser shall be deemed to be waived and shall be without validity unless made in writing to the Galleries within ten days after a sale.

15. In any dispute as to the amount of the bid, the records of the Galleries shall be accepted by the bidder as final and correct. The bid shown by the records of the Galleries shall in all cases be accepted by the bidder or purchaser as the value of the property with respect to any and all claims of any nature whatsoever against the Galleries or its consignors.

16. Neither the auctioneer nor any other representative of the Galleries shall have the authority to waive or alter, in whole or in part, any of these Conditions of Sale.

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85. LAFAYETTE, G., M. MARQUIS DE. A.L.s. 1 p., 4to. Paris. March 3. 1824. To Monsieur and Madame de Matouret. About 170 words in French. Mounted. An interesting letter thanking his correspondents for two portraits sent to the writer.

86. LE GALLIENNE, RICHARD. Autograph Ms. of a lecture on "*Omar Khayyám*," delivered at Minneapolis and St. Paul, written on 24 pp., folio. signed and dated at Minneapolis, November 30, 1900. Half morocco slip case.

ORIGINAL AUTOGRAPH MS. OF A LECTURE ON OMAR KHAYYÁM, with many corrections and emendations throughout. A few passages consist of excised newspaper clippings pasted in, some of which have been afterwards cut away, presumably by the author. On the verso of the last leaf is the following inscription: "*This MS. of a lecture on Omar Khayyam delivered—with so little travail—at Minneapolis & St. Paul—Novr. 1900 & Jany 1901—is humbly offered by the lecturer to his friend 'Jamie'—as a small installment towards his 'board.'* Richard Le Gallienne, Minneapolis 29 Jany 1901." With a complete type-script transcription.

87. LE QUEUX, WILLIAM. English author. A.MS.s. "*William Le Queux*." Entitled "*The Secrets of Potsdam*." In a 4to cloth folder. About 500 pp.

This appears to be the complete manuscript of this lengthy work. There are many corrections and deletions throughout.

An account of this fabulous personage appears in the English 1928 "Who's Who," and his works are listed. This one, however, is not among them. He has been a consultant of his government due to his intimate knowledge of world affairs.

50⁰⁰ 88. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.D.s., "*Stuart & Lincoln*." 1 p., 4to, August 29, 1839. 290⁰⁰

Notice served by Stuart & Lincoln, complainant's solicitors, that they will "*attend at the offices of Thomas Moffat, in the town of Springfield for the purpose of taking the depositions of Joseph W. Centre and John Prinam*" on Sept. 11, 1839. The case in Chancery was "*Nancy Orendorff & others, vs. Rowland Springfield & others*".

50⁰⁰ 89. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Document in the autograph of Abraham Lincoln. Signed by Isaac P. Spear. 1½ pp., folio, November 18, 1839. 165⁰⁰

The document is entitled "*The separate answer of Issac P. Spear to the Bill in Chancery filed against him and the President, Directors, and Company of the State Bank of Illinois by William L. May in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County*." With notation on second page "*Filed Nov. 18, 1839.*"

50⁰⁰ 90. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.D.s. "*Logan and Lincoln*." Legal document filed in the Sangamon Circuit Court [Nov. 22, 1842]. Trespass on the case on promises. damage \$700. The case was James P. Langford [Lincoln's client] vs. Adam Johnson. 200⁰⁰

110⁰⁰

91. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Two-line autograph acknowledgement, written on a legal brief, and signed "*Lincoln & Herndon for Deft.*" Dated October 6, 1847.

75⁰⁰

Law suit of Josiah T. Betts vs. Elijah S. Frazer, in the Circuit Court in Sangamon County. Notification by C. R. Welles, attorney for the plaintiff, to Elijah S. Frazer notifying him that he will take a deposition of Thomas Owen on Oct. 16, 1847 at the office of Justice of the Peace J. C. Spriggs. Lincoln's endorsement reads: "*We acknowledge service of the above notice on this 6th day of October, 1847. Lincoln & Herndon for Deft.*"

130⁰⁰

92. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Five-line note, signed "*Lincoln & Herndon for said Defendent.*" [Nov. 30, 1850] Written on the verso of a document entitled "*Bill of Review. In Sangamon Circuit Court, Nov. Term 1850.*" which was filed Nov. 30, 1850.

35⁰⁰

180⁰⁰

93. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.D.s., "*Lincoln & Herndon.*" 1 p., 4to, comprising six lines. Plea in case of Allen vs. McDonald. Docketed "*Filed March 22, 1853.*"

35⁰⁰

WITHDRAWN
FORGERY

94. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.D.s. twice "*A. Lincoln p.p.*" and "*Lincoln and Herndon for Plaintiff.*" 2 pp., folio, about 300 words. Urbana, March 2, 1858. Plea in J. C. Miller vs. William Evans, trespass for breaking a mill dam from floating timber. Break across centerfold, mended. Framed in passe partout.

100⁰⁰

280⁰⁰

95. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Receipt signed: "*Received, May 2, 1859, of B. F. Fox, fifty dollars to be credited on note of A. & J. Haines. \$50.00. A. Lincoln.*" One p., oblong 8vo.

50⁰⁰

130⁰⁰

96. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. D.s., 1 p., folio, on vellum. August 6, 1861. Also signed by Simon Cameron, Secretary of War. Warrant appointing Avery B. Cain, Lieutenant in the Fourth Regiment of Infantry in the service of the United States. Framed.

100⁰⁰

150⁰⁰

97. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Signed Autograph Endorsement on integral leaf of a letter, reads: "*I think the case is sufficiently made for Genl. Wade to be appointed. A. Lincoln, Sept. 28, 1861.*"

150⁰⁰

The letter is from General Melancthon S. Wade, "Cincinnati, Sept. 23, 1861" addressed to Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, and in it he states he commanded the Cincinnati Volunteers Brigade for many years prior to 1844 and offers his services as a Brigadier General. There are endorsements on the letter by John A. Gurley (Representative in Congress from Ohio), Brig. Gen. O. M. Mitchell, George Hatch (Mayor of Cincinnati). On the same page as Lincoln's endorsement is one by Secretary of War Cameron submitting the application to President Lincoln, below which he has placed his endorsement.

- 350⁰⁰ 98. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. D.s. 1 p., folio, on vellum. February 7, 1862. 100⁰⁰
Also signed by Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy. Warrant appointing R. Julius Richardson an Assistant Paymaster in the Navy.
- 50⁰⁰ 99. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.L.s. 1 p., 8vo. "Executive Mansion, May 17, 1862." To "Hon. Sec. of War," Edward M. Stanton. 400⁰⁰
"Let Frederick Salomon, of Wisconsin, be appointed a Brigadier General of volunteers."
- 100⁰⁰ 100. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Endorsement Signed, on second leaf of a letter. Sept. 3, 1862. 260⁰⁰
The endorsement reads: "I believe I sent over a word for Mr. Webber the other day. This is from Judge Davis, the Clerk of one of whose County Mr. Webber was for a long time."
Lincoln's memorandum is on the integral leaf of a letter addressed to him by his friend Judge David Davis, whom he appointed to the Supreme Court. Davis's letter comprises 1 p., 12mo, Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 19, 1862, and is addressed to "His Excellency The Presdt. of U.S." and writes "I would earnestly recommend the appmt. as Paymaster in the Volunteer Services—Thomson R. Webber, Esq. of Urbana. You and I have known Mr. Webber for a quarter of a century . . . We have always differed with Mr. Webber in politics, but my esteem for him has never been lessened on that account. . . ."
- 750⁰⁰ 101. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Dispatch Signed. 1 p., Washington. 675⁰⁰
June 22. 9 A.M., 1863. To Major General Joseph Hooker.
"Operator at Leesburg just now says: 'I heard very little this A.M. about daylight, but it seems to have stopped now. It was in about the same direction of yesterday, but farther off.' A. Lincoln"
- 100⁰⁰ 101A. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Endorsement, signed, reading: 375⁰⁰
"This man wants employment, and I shall be glad if it can be given him. A. Lincoln. Augt. 29, 1863."
This endorsement is written on the verso of a Discharge from the service granted by a surgeon's certificate of disability to N. L. Crist of the 12th Illinois Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, and was given at Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 150⁰⁰ 102. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Dispatch, signed. 1 p., 4to, "Washington, D. C., Sept. 12, 1863." To "Major General Meade, Warrenton, Va." 850⁰⁰
PERTAINING TO THE SUSPENDING THE EXECUTION OF A SOLDIER UNTIL HE HAD MORE INFORMATION. Lincoln had written to General Meade on Sept. 11, 1863 to suspend the execution of Thomas Edd and to send him the record of the trial. Meade replied the same day. The present letter is in reply to Meade's dispatch.
"The name is 'Thomus Edds' not 'Eddies' as in your dispatch. The papers left with me do not designate the regiment to which he belongs. The man who gave me the papers I do not know how to find again. He only told me that Edds is in the Army of the Potomac, and that he fell out of the ranks during Burnside's mud march last winter. If I get further information I will telegraph you."

140⁰⁰

103. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. D.s., 1 p., folio, on vellum. July 15, 1864. Also signed by E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War. Warrant appointing Cyrus M. Roberts as a Lieutenant in the Signal Corps. Fine condition. 100⁰⁰

LINCOLN'S CABINET

300⁰⁰

104. [LINCOLN, ABRAHAM]. A collection of A.L.s., L.s., etc., as listed below, by President Lincoln and the Members of his Cabinet. Together 15 pieces, folio and smaller, mounted to folio, and bound in a folio volume, full blue levant morocco, gilt tooled, grey watered silk doublures and end-papers, gilt top, uncut, by the BOOKLOVER'S BINDERY. 150⁰⁰

A SPLENDID MEMENTO. The autograph specimens are accompanied by engraved portraits of President Lincoln and the members of his cabinet, in both his Administrations. Comprises:

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Excerpt from a document with the following in Lincoln's autograph "Approved, A. Lincoln. Dec. 10, 1864"; the endorsement preceding Lincoln's reads: "Release on oath amnesty. James Speed."

HAMLIN, HANNIBAL, *Vice-President*. A.L.s., 1p., 12mo, Dec. 3, 1860. To T. A. Cheney. Acknowledging a letter.

JOHNSON, ANDREW. *President; and Vice-President under Lincoln*. D.s., 1 p., folio, June 16, 1865. Appointment of J. D. Howell as Deputy Postmaster at New Haven, Conn.

SEWARD, WILLIAM H., *Secretary of State*. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, Washington, Jan. 17, 1853. To the Rev. J. D. Beckworth, Boston, Mass. Regrets his inability, on account of time, to deliver a discourse.

CHASE, SAMUEL P., *Secretary of the Treasury*. A.L.s., 1p., 4to, Nov. 15, 1856. Seeks information regarding a man named Leonard Lambley, who emigrated from England.

FESSEDEN, WILLIAM P., *Secretary of the Treasury*. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, Portland, August 21, 1862. Recommending a young man to the Secretary of the Navy for an appointment.

McCULLOCH, HUGH, *Secretary of the Treasury*. L.s., 1 p., 4to, Treasury Dept., Nov. 12, 1866. Regarding changes in placement of revenue officers.

CAMERON, SIMON. *Secretary of War*. A.L.s., 1 p., 12mo, Senate, Feb. 17, 1846. To Mr. H. Wright regarding getting compensation for Mr. Boston's services.

STANTON, EDWIN M., *Secretary of War*. L.s., 1 p., 4to, War Dept., April 13, 1868. To Hon. G. H. Williams, U.S. Senate, regarding an adjustment of a conflict between a private land claim and a military reservation.

WELLES, GIDEON, *Secretary of the Navy*. L.s., 1 p., 4to, Navy Dept., June 1, 1863. To Hon. Charles Denison, Wilkes Barre, Pa., informing him there is no vacancy in the Naval Academy from the 12th Dist. of Pennsylvania.

BATES, EDWARD, *Attorney-General*. L.s., 1 p., 12mo, Washington, May 23, 1861. To an unnamed person, introducing a friend.

BLAIR, MONTGOMERY, *Postmaster General*. A.L.s., 1 p., 12mo, Washington, March 18, 1868.

DENNISON, WILLIAM, *Postmaster General*. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, Dec. 19, 1879.

USHER, JOHN P., *Secretary of the Interior*. L.s., Dept. of the Interior, Apr. 6, 1864.

SMITH, CALEB B., *Secretary of the Interior*. D.s., 1 p., 4to, Department of the Interior. June 25, 1862.

AUTOGRAPHS OF LINCOLN AND HIS CABINET

105. [LINCOLN, ABRAHAM.] Album containing about 500 Autograph Signatures of prominent men of the nation, including Lincoln and his Cabinet, Generals of the Army, United States Senators and Congressmen, and other prominent men who visited the White House. 12mo, full maroon levant morocco, lettered in gilt on back and on the front cover. [1864]

ALSO
WITHDRAWN
BEFORE
AUCTION
FORGERY

A SPLENDID AUTOGRAPH ALBUM. This album was compiled by one of the employees of the Government in Washington in 1864 and contains the autographs of famous men who visited Washington, D. C.

Below each signature the title of the person is written in a neat hand. Among the signers are President Lincoln and Members of his Cabinet. Among the Generals of the Army are U. S. Grant, H. W. Halleck, M. C. Meigs, George Meade, John A. Logan, N. P. Banks. W. S. Rosecrans, Winfield S. Hancock, Franz Sigel, Lewis Wallace, John G. Wool, G. W. Cullum, H. W. Sibley, Michael Corcoran, W. T. Sherman, G. M. Dodge. Among the Senators: E. D. Morgan, John Sherman, J. B. Henderson, J. C. Ten Eyck, and S. C. Pomeroy. Other signers include: Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Simon Cameron, David D. Porter, President Andrew Johnson and Gov. John Andrews.

106. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Endorsement on a letter, reading: "Submitted to Gen. Hitchcock. A. Lincoln. Dec. 12, 1864."

The letter was addressed to "Hon. W. C. Goodloe" of Kentucky, by John T. Gunn and W. A. Gunn, dated Lexington, Ky., Dec. 5, 1864, seeking the release of Lieut. Thomas M. Gunn of the 21st Regiment of Kentucky Vet. Vol. Infantry, a prisoner in the Confederate prison in Charleston, S. C. Goodloe and two others have docketed it and "recommend favorable Action of the President . . . for the immediate exchange of Lt. Gunn."

107. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Endorsement Signed, reading "Let this gentleman & his wife pass from New York to Savannah. A. Lincoln. Feb. 12, 1865."

WRITTEN BY LINCOLN ON HIS BIRTHDAY, TWO MONTHS BEFORE HIS ASSASSINATION. The endorsement is on a sheet which forms part of an attestation, dated N. Y., Feb. 4, 1865, by Dr. Robert Watts, Professor of Anatomy in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and Dr. Willard Parker, that Abraham U. Colby was under their care; they advised a sea voyage for his lung infection to Savannah, Ga., and state that he was a loyal citizen of the U.S. On the same sheet as the endorsement is one by William H. Randall of Kentucky, requesting the President to grant this permit for Colby and his wife.

108. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph Pass, signed. Written on a small card. Feb. 18, 1865.

Authorizing a Confederate lady (whose name he did not know, because there is a space for it) to pass through the Union Lines. Two months before his death.

"Allow Mrs. (blank space) daughter of Judget Young to pass our lines & come to Washington. A. Lincoln."

180⁰⁰

109. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. A.N.s., 1 p., 16mo, Feb. 24, 1865. Matted and framed. 50⁰⁰

Written two months before his assassination. Reads: "*Gov. Buckingham would like a Brevet for General Beigo [?] & I too would like it if not inconvenient. A. Lincoln.*"

160⁰⁰

110. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Autograph endorsement on an integral leaf of a letter, reading "*Pardon, for unexecuted part of sentence. A. Lincoln, March 21, 1865.*" 75⁰⁰

The letter is addressed "*To His Excellency President Lincoln,*" by Giles W. Hotchkiss, Congressman from the 26th District in N. Y., stating "*I fully endorse Col. Stilson and recommend that James E. Leddy be pardoned, restored to duty & his full pay awarded him.*"

170⁰⁰

111. LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. Two legal briefs in the autograph of Abraham Lincoln, unsigned, undated. Probably file copies. Each, 1 p. folio. 100⁰⁰

One is entitled "*David Haddin & Enoch Haddin vs. Jonathan Pollen and Joseph B. Perkins; Chancery with injunction.*" The other is entitled: "*Aaron Vanderveer, administrator of the Estate of Abraham Kesler, decd., vs. Daniel P. Kesler, & others, heirs, etc.; On Petition to sell real estate.*"

150⁰⁰

112. LINCOLN'S CABINET OFFICERS. A group of A.L.s. and L.s. by Lincoln's Cabinet Officers. Together 5 pieces. 25⁰⁰

Comprises: A.L.s. by Vice-Pres. Hannibal Hamlin, 1 p., 12mo, May 30, 1891 ÷ A.L.s. by Sec. of State W. H. Seward, 1 p., 4to, Nov. 4, 1850 ÷ A.L.s. by Sec. of War Edwin M. Stanton, 1 p., 4to, War Dept., Aug. 14, 1865. To Hon. James Harlan introducing Col. Dimer who had just returned from the Indian territory ÷ L.s. by Sec. of the Navy Gideon Welles, 1 p., 4to, Navy Dept., Dec. 6, 1866. To "The President" submitting a warrant for his signature ÷ L.s. by Sec. of Treasury, Sa. P. Chase, 1 p., 4to, Washington, Jan. 31, 1861. To E. L. Pierce of Boston.

650⁰⁰

113. LINCOLN AND HIS GENERALS. A collection comprising a D.s. by Lincoln, and A.L.s. by the Union Generals of the Civil War. 26 pieces, 4to and smaller, inlaid on 4to sheets. *With portraits.* Bound in a 4to volume, full blue levant morocco, gilt tooled, doublures of red levant morocco, white watered silk end leaves, gilt top, uncut, by THE BOOKLOVER'S BINDERY. 400⁰⁰

A SPLENDID CIVIL WAR MEMENTO. The autograph material comprises:

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM. D.s., 1 p., 4to, Dec. 16, 1864. Authorizes the Secretary of State to affix the seal of the U. S. to a warrant for the pardon of James W. McHenry.

SCOTT, WINFIELD. A.L.s., 3 pp., 8vo, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1856. To T. B. Stevenson, mentioning General Taylor and Henry Clay.

GRANT, ULYSSES SIMPSON. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, "*Head Quarters, Armies of the United States. City Point, Va., Feb. 28, 1865.*" To Lt. Col. Mulford, telling him that he may send "*Pryer through with the first prisoners sent off. Speak to him however about John Dent and say he has been promised his freedom so often that I had thought of detaining him until Dent was released.*"

SHERMAN, WILLIAM T. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1887. To Horace Russell, N. E. Society, about attending a dinner of the Society.

SHERIDAN, PHILIP H. L.s., 1 p., 4to, London, Feb. 1, 1864. To Messrs. Richardson, Spece & Co., N. Y., ordering a uniform for himself, also civilian travelling coat, etc.

THOMAS, GEORGE H. A.L.s., 1¼ pp., 8vo, Head Quarters, Department of the Cumberland,

[Continued]

Number 113—Concluded]

Nashville, Apr. 5 & June 28, 1865. To: Hon. A. I. Fletcher, Sec. State, State of Tenn. Acknowledges the honor bestowed him by the State of Tennessee adopting him as a citizen of the State.

MEADE, GEORGE C. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, Head-Quarters, Department of the East. Phila., Oct. 22, 1866. To "Lt. Col. T. E. Lee, N. Y. Mil. Agt., Washington, D. C." acknowledging a report of the Adj. Genl. of N. Y.

MC CLELLAN, GEORGE B. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, Mar. 19, 1864. To Col. Lloyd Aspinwall, N. Y. That owing to the "Fair" in Washington and so many visitors he cannot accept Col. Aspinwall's invitation to visit.

HOOKE, JOSEPH. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, "Head Quarters in Field Division, Camp near Monterey, Mar. 6, 1846." To Brig. Genl. Quitman, regarding detailing of eight men to the provision depot.

ROSECRANS, WILLIAM S. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, Washington, Apr. 18, 1882. To Col. G. W. Stule.

HANCOCK, WINFIELD S. A.L.s., 3 pp., 12mo, Governor's Island, New York, June 4, 1881. To J. L. Townsend.

FREMONT, JOHN C. A.L.s., 2 pp., 4to, San Francisco, Cal., May 4, 1858. To "Gov. Banks, Boston, Mass." Regards a decision against Fremont in the Supreme Court of California in an action to recover 168 acres of land from a mining company.

LOCAN, JOHN A. A.L.s., 1 p., 4to, "Head Quarters, 3d Division, 17th Army Corps on Big Black River, Mississippi, May 5, '63." To Mr. L. S. Cist, Asst. Cashier State Savg. Association, informing him of his appointment as Brig. Genl. on Mar. 21, 1862 and accepting his commission as Maj. Genl. April 19, 1863.

PORTER, FITZ-JOHN. A.L.s., 3 pp., 8vo, Morristown, N. J., July 24, 1884. To "My dear General"; mentions he is going to write President Arthur in reply to his message and give it to the Associated Press.

BUTLER, BENJAMIN F. L.s., 1 p., 4to, Lowell, July 6, 1869. To Major Ben Perley Poore, stating his inability to visit him.

HALLECK, H. W. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, Head Quarters, Dept. of the Miss., Pittsburg, Apr. 30, 1862. To Maj. Gen. Thomas "Comdg. Right Wing," ordering him to "immediately advance one division to Monterey to occupy that place," provisions, etc.

SICKLES, DANIEL E. A.L.s., N. Y., Nov. 16, 1866. To H. C. Smythe, Collector of the Port, N. Y., seeking appointment for Maj. J. T. Crosby.

SCHOFIELD, J. M. A.L.s., 1 p., Dec. 19, 1887. To Hon. Horace Russell, accepting an invitation to a public function.

DIX, JOHN A. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, N. Y. Sept. 11, 1865. To Hon. Preston King, Collector of the Port of N. Y., regarding retaining a man in his position.

PORTER, HORACE. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, N. Y., Mar. 22, 1880. To E. H. Buck.

SMITH, ORLAND. A.L.s., 1 p., 8vo, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1896. To Gen. Horatio C. King.

SCHURZ, CARL. L.s., 4 pp., 8vo, Washington, Nov. 3, 1879. To Hon. A. C. Barstow, Board of Indian Commissioners. Regarding the troubles with the Ute Indians.

MILES, NELSON A. A.L.s. 4 pp., 12mo, Raleigh, N. C., May 17, 1868. Regarding education in the South.

MITCHELL, ORMSBY MCK. A.L.s., 1¼ pp., 4to, Cincinnati, July 18, 1847. Regarding subscribers for a publication.

HAMLINS, JOHN. L.s. "Brig. Gen., Chief of Staff." 2 pp., 4to, Washington, Oct. 1, 1865. To Prof. H. Coppee, regarding the defenses of Corinth, Mississippi, mentioning Gen. Grant, Gen. Halleck and others.

FRANKLIN, WILLIAM B. A.L.s., 2½ pp., 4to, Hartford, Conn., Feb. 12, 1873. States that "Gen. Burnside had made statements to me when he was in command of the Army of the Potomac, which were either false, or the wandering of a crazed mind."

325⁰⁰

114. LINCOLN, MARY TODD. A.L.s. 3 pp., 8vo, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, August 17, 1869. To "My dear Mrs. Orne."

50⁰⁰

"After six weeks absence from town I returned last evening & amongst my package of letters I found one from you. . . . If you are still at H. [Hamburg] please telegraph me . . . Address me Hotel de Holland, room 72 . . . I am so impatient to see you . . ."

115. LISZT, FRANZ. A.L.s. "F. Liszt," 2 pp., 12mo, Weimar, May 15, 1875. In German. A very good letter on musical matters, mentioning "Tristan."

116. LISZT, FRANZ. A.L.s. "Liszt," 1 p., oblong 8vo, n.p., n.d. To "Grossherzog von Sachsen-Weimar." In German. Inlaid and bound in a large folio volume, full midnight blue straight-grain morocco; doublures and end leaves of blue watered silk.

In which Wagner makes an appointment for the next morning. The characters of the script are larger than is usual with Liszt's handwriting.

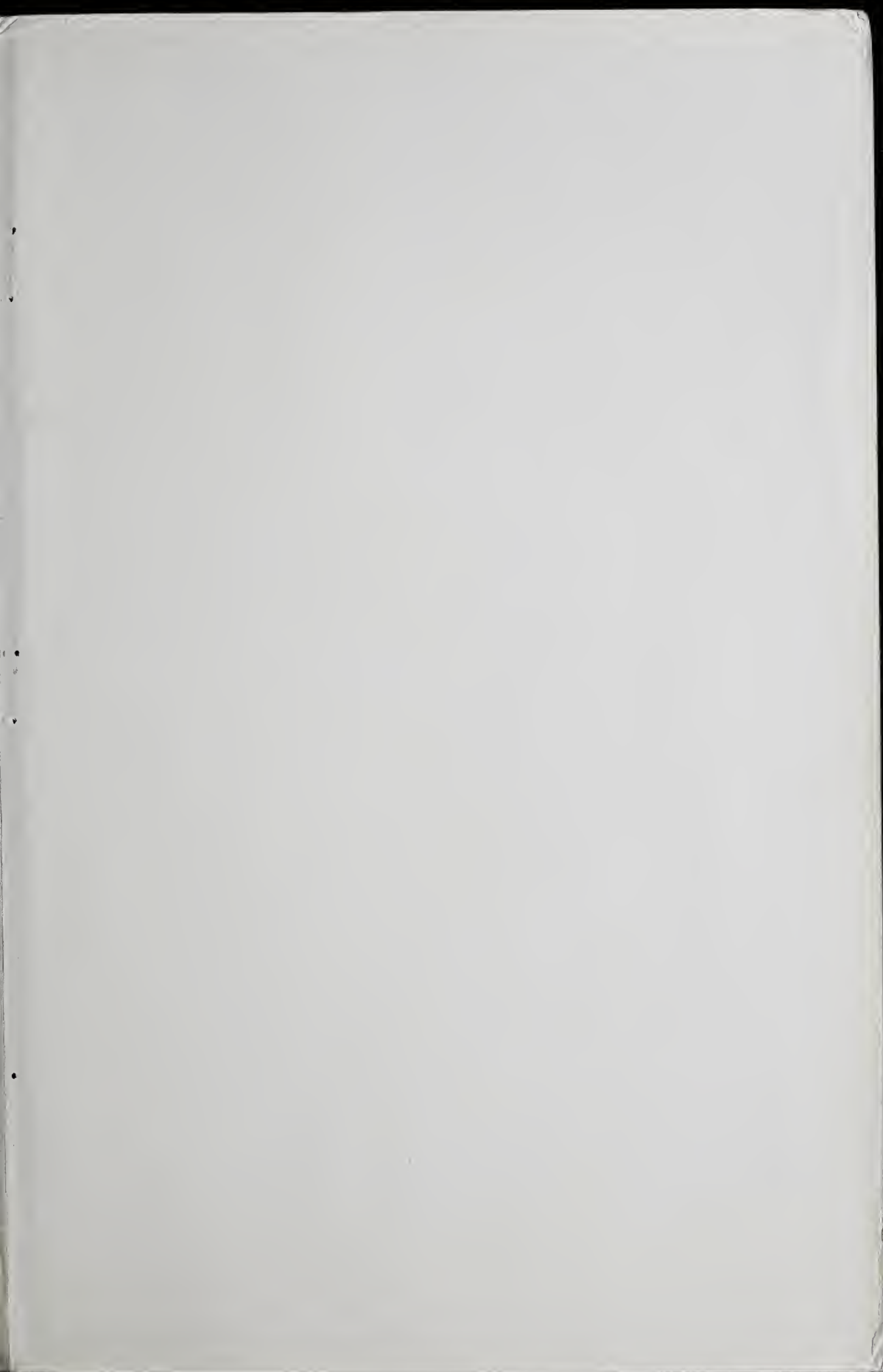
117. LONGFELLOW, HENRY WADSWORTH. A.L.s. "Henry Wadsworth Longfellow," 4 pp., 4to, Cambridge, July 5, 1840. To Willis G. Clark of Philadelphia.

A SUPERB AND LENGTHY LITERARY LETTER reading, in part, as follows: ". . . Pray who is it that is attacking me so furiously in Philadelphia . . . The publisher of Hyperion stopped payment and broke his engagements with me. A quantity of the books . . . (are) still in bondage. The Voices have gone to a second edition which is already nearly half sold . . . I am glad you like the 'Hesperus' . . ."

118. MARIA THERESA. L.s. "Maria Theresa," 5 pp., 4to, Sept. 27, 1766 ✧ D.s. "Maria Theresa," 3 pp., folio (1771). Together 2 pieces, both in German, the first on mourning stationery, the second displaying a highly decorative and ornamental border around the lettered introductory text. The remaining portion is in German script.

119. MARIE ANTOINETTE AND LOUIS XVI. D.s. "Marie Antoinette." One p., folio, Versailles, July 1, 1785 ✧ A.L. by Louis XVI. One p., 12mo. With 11 fine engravings. Bound into a large folio volume, full crushed levant morocco, handsomely gilt tooled with the Royal Arms in the centers and fleur-de-lis in the corners, in gilt; doublures and end leaves of French blue watered silk, gilt edges. A HANDSOME PIECE.

The letter by the King announces the conferring of a Colonel-General's commission upon the Duke of Chartres. The document endorsed and signed by Marie Antoinette is an order to the General Treasurer of Finances to pay a sum of money to M. Briam for his maintenance. The engraved plates comprise portraits and allegorical subjects by Cochin, St. Aubin, Fragonard, Moreau and others.



CATALOGUE 2025

PARKE-BERNET GALLERIES

MORSE LIBRARY

MARCH 21 AND 22 • 1961

VII

W.H. Ireland was among the most famous, and for a time the most successful, of literary forgers. We have secured a remarkable collection of "original" letters and manuscripts of William Shakespeare and other Elizabethans

fabricated by him. This collection, which was referred to in "The Fourth Forger," John Mair's biography of Ireland, was arranged by the forger himself.

Among the more important pieces are part of the manuscript of *King Lear*; letters from Shakespeare to Anne Hathaway, Lord Southampton, and Richard Cowley, the comedian. There is also a letter from Queen Elizabeth and the manuscript (1½ pages, folio) of Shakespeare's *Profession of Faith*, a document which created great excitement among the believers in the genuineness of Ireland's discoveries. Many of the letters bear explanatory notes in Ireland's hand.

The embellished title page is dated 1805, but there are water-marks as late as 1830, which suggests that Ireland's assembly of the collection was spread over a considerable period.

Lincoln Forgeries

By DR. HERMAN BLUM

There are a half million ardent Lincoln fans in the United States.

They manifest their affection for our 16th President by collecting every type of memorabilia related to him—autographed letters, copies of his legal briefs, official papers, signatures on military orders, his lock of hair, even discarded scraps of lumber from his home when it was remodeled.

They pay eagerly and well for these Lincoln items.

For example, four brief gossip letters written by Lincoln in 1843 to Joshua Speed, his roommate in Salem, Ill., brought \$37,500 recently at a New York auction sale. A Cuban sugar planter bought the fifth copy of the Gettysburg Address, in Lincoln's own handwriting, for \$54,000.

Forgeries Abound

Few of the avid collectors are aware that frauds and forgeries, particularly of manuscripts and autograph letters by Lincoln, abound.

A spectacular example of these forgeries is an alleged letter written to Lincoln's brother-in-law, Ninian W. Edwards, on Sept. 2, 1858, regarding Lincoln's legal victory on behalf of the Illinois Central Railroad.

The letter, reproduced here, was acquired by this writer several years ago, as a genuine Lincoln autograph of historical importance. It came from a long established antique dealer and was placed in the Blumhaver Library and Gallery.

Super-forgery

A few years ago I began to hear stories of a super-forgery of Lincoln's handwriting. This counterfeiter, who operated under a number of aliases, was subsequently exposed, but he kept right on turning out fabulous forgeries, whenever he needed money for drink.

Speculators bought his output for nominal sums. Some passed these expert forgeries on as such; some sold them at fancy profits to the unwary as genuine Lincoln autographs.

Pretty soon, gnawing doubts began to assail me about my chance purchase of a Lincoln document—the letter to his brother-in-law. I decided to ask an authority on the subject about that letter. So I went to

Dr. Blum is founder and director of the Blumhaver Library and Gallery at 4651 Leiper st., Frankford, which houses his collection of Lincoln material. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

the Library of Congress in Washington, where my friend, Dr. C. Percy Powell, associate curator of the manuscript division of the Library, examined the letter critically.

There was a wan smile on his face as he studied the document. I feared the worst as I ruefully watched the examination of the manuscript.

Where He Slipped

Dr. Powell explained to me that as clever as this was, he strangely overlooked one minor, but important, detail of Lincoln's handwriting.

Mr. Lincoln occasionally underlined words to make his meaning particularly clear to the reader. One virtually invariable feature of his was his careful avoidance of running the underlining across any letters, such as "F," "G," or "Y," that dipped below the level of the line of the word, an example being the word "facts."

If a letter with such a downward stroke appeared inside a word, he would cut the underlining in two to avoid crossing it. The forger's failure to notice and reproduce this idiosyncrasy resulted in his ultimate exposure and the termination of his career.

In the Edwards' document, the underlining goes through the letter "P," that dips below the level of the line in the word "corporation." The underlining was used in only one instance on this document.

Isn't it remarkable that this forged letter which is not a copy or transcript of any Lincoln letter in existence, discusses a mandamus case actually tried in the Bloomington, Ill., county courthouse?

Later Lincoln sued the Illinois Central to collect his fee of \$5,000.

Adequate Fees

Lincoln had a distinct bias for adequate fees. His law practice was not restricted to the backwoods of Illinois. Poverty

stricken, homespun clients were never refused his services. The worthy cases of the downtrodden and the poor always had his sympathetic attention, but by 1856 he represented important clients including the most powerful corporation in the state, the Illinois Central.

More than 1,100,000 words that Abraham Lincoln set down on paper have survived. There are five copies of his Gettysburg Address in his own handwriting in existence.

On his personal letters, passes and autograph notes, his signature appears mostly as "A. Lincoln." On some notes, he merely signed his initials, "A. L." Communications to General Grant, General McClellan, and to members of his Cabinet were signed "A. Lincoln." But on official papers he signed "Abraham Lincoln."

Lincoln wrote slowly, carefully. His is one of the most legible handwritings of our Presidents. His law partner, Herndon, said Lincoln's nerves had to run a long way through dry soil to establish a connection between brain and hand. He thought and wrote and acted deliberately. Yet his handwriting has a free, fluent quality usually associated with rapid writers.

Springfield,
Sept. 2, 1858

N. W. Edwards, Esq.
Monticello, Ill.

Dear Sir,

Yesterday morning
The Court handed down a decision in the
mandamus case - denying Watch's return on
the demurrer. Mr. Blumhaver was present and
said nothing, and so I suppose the matter
is ended. The Court gave no reason for
the decision but Beck tells me confidentially
they were unanimous in their opinion from
the start. This will be great news for the
Illinois Central who expected a reversal on
the grounds of corporation.

I shall be in Monticello on Sunday or
Monday, and will see you there.

Yours, as ever
A. Lincoln

P.S.

You might inform Matthew of the result.

Letter forged with Abraham Lincoln's signature. Unbroken line under the word "Corporation" helped to reveal the forgery.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

Forgery

August 14, 1969

Dear Dr. Hansen:

I deeply appreciate your having sent for my inspection and study the original of what purports, on the face of it, to be a letter from Lincoln to B. C. Cook, December 25, 1858. Having studied it, I am convinced that the questions raised by the photocopy which you sent earlier are justified. I may be in error, but I am nevertheless satisfied that you have a forgery.

The quality of the handwriting is a fairly good imitation of Lincoln's hand, but only fairly good. This impression I received from the appearance of the photocopy and have now reinforced from the study of the original in detail.

More convincing, however, is the analysis of the contents of the letter, which I did not have time to do before I acknowledged receipt of your earlier letter. I have found, incidentally, that forgers rarely take the trouble to compose a sound document that Lincoln could have written, but rather take stock phrases and names from other letters that will seem all right superficially. This is just what you have in this case. Lincoln in his right mind could not have apologized "for not writing sooner" when in the opening sentence he stated the alleged letter from Cook "was received this morning." (Incidentally no such letter from Cook is in the Lincoln Papers here.) Likewise, how strange that Whitney should have sent a letter which Lincoln had "just received" in December "inclosing the attack of the Times upon me," when Whitney actually wrote Lincoln on June 24, 1858, and inclosed the "attack of the Times!" If you will look up Lincoln's several letters to Whitney in The Collected Works, you will see where the forger got most of the contents of this phoney letter dated December 25, 1858.

I am sorry, but that's my opinion for what it is worth.

I enjoyed reading your poems, which I return, together with the purported Lincoln letter, and the provenance document from Queen Gridley Thomas.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arthur C. Hansen
2565 N 84th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

REGISTERED MAIL

Roy P. Basler
Chief

Springfield, Dec. 25. 1858

B. C. Cook Esq

My dear Sir:

Your letter of the 21st was received this morning and am much obliged for the newspaper you sent me by Express — I have just received a letter from H. C. Whitney enclosing the attack of the Times upon me — he seems concerned about my voting against the suppression — I am just considering what answer to make and what shape to put it in — It is a lie and must not be allowed to go uncontradicted — I will be at Monticello on Thursday without fail and may see Lovejoy and if not I shall write to him at Ottawa — Pardon me for not writing sooner — I have a great many things to do — I will send you a copy of my answer which will not be published — There is some probability that things will be adjusted — Do not show this to any one

Your friend as ever
A. Lincoln

Letter from Abraham Lincoln
to A. J. Cook dated
Dec. 25, 1858.

Sold to Arthur L. Hansen
from the collection of
Eleanor Fridley, by
her daughter.

Eleanor Fridley Thomas



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

August 14, 1969

Dear Dr. Hansen:

I deeply appreciate your having sent for my inspection and study the original of what purports, on the face of it, to be a letter from Lincoln to B. C. Cook, December 25, 1858. Having studied it, I am convinced that the questions raised by the photocopy which you sent earlier are justified. I may be in error, but I am nevertheless satisfied that you have a forgery.

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I am sorry, but that's my opinion for what it is worth.

I enjoyed reading your poems, which I return, together with the purported Lincoln letter, and the provenance document from Queen Gridley Thomas.

Dr. Arthur C. Hansen
2565 N 84th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

REGISTERED MAIL

Sincerely,

Roy P. Basler

Roy P. Basler
Chief

August 19, 1969

Dear Gerald:

I received the bad news from Dr. Basler. The letter is a forgery. Oh, well, I only paid \$5 or \$10 for it. But why does anyone put all that effort into such a project when he could work on counterfeiting. That practice should be more lucrative.

Regards!

Sincerely,
Art



Its name indicates its character

The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Fort Wayne, Indiana

R. GERALD McMURTRY
DIRECTOR

April 20, 1972

Mr. David Randall
Lilly Library
University of Indiana
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Dear Mr. Randall:

I have recently examined a framed Lincoln letter (photograph enclosed), which appears to me to be an original manuscript. It is dated October 5, 1862.

However, on page 451, of volume #5 of THE COLLECTED WORKS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN 1861-1865, I find the identical letter addressed to Joseph R. Smith dated October 6, 1862 (find Xerox page enclosed).

The reason I am directing this letter to you is that THE COLLECTED WORKS carries the notation that the ALS is located at Indiana University.

Will you please let me know if your library owns the original document, and if the correct date is October 6, 1862?

If there is a discrepancy between dates, how would one resolve the problem?

Hoping that you or a member of your staff will have the time to pursue this matter for me, I remain

Yours truly,

R. Gerald McMurry

RGM/nlc

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The University Libraries

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47401

THE LILLY LIBRARY

May 4, 1972

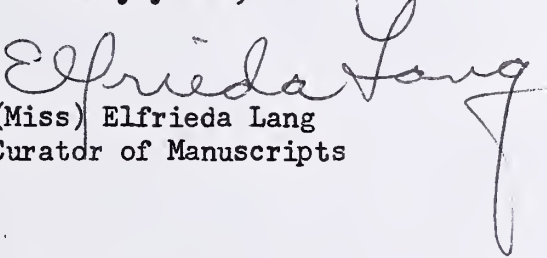
Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. McMurtry:

Mr. Randall entered the hospital Tuesday and asked me to answer your letter.

Mr. Randall, Mr. Bennett, Miss Warner, and I checked on the copy of the Lincoln letter you enclosed. We think it is questionable. Enclosed find a xerox copy of our letter which is dated October 6, 1862. There is a discrepancy between the dates. We will be interested in your conclusion after comparing the two letters.

Sincerely yours,


(Miss) Elfrieda Lang
Curator of Manuscripts

EL/we

May 8, 1972

Miss Elfrieda Lang
Curator of Manuscripts
The Lilly Library
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Dear Miss Lang:

I am indeed grateful for your letter and Xerox copy of your Lincoln manuscript dated October 6, 1862. Your manuscript is beyond question, genuine. The manuscript that I saw dated October 5, 1862 is undoubtedly spurious.

Many thanks for helping me get at the bottom of this problem.

Yours truly,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM/mjh

May 8, 1972

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Dow, Jr.
The Dow's Corner Shop
P. O. Ossipee, R.F.D., New Hampshire 03864

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Dow:

I have come to the conclusion tha the Lincoln document
you showed me dated Oct. 5, 1862 is spurious.

I am of the opinion that the document, owned by Indiana
University and dated October 6, 1862, is genuine.

I enclose a photograph and two Xerox copies of the two
documents in question. I believe you will agree with me
that the document in your possession is spurious.

Yours truly,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM/mjh

May 25, 1972

Miss Elfrieda Lang
Curator of Manuscripts
The Lilly Library
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Dear Miss Lang:

You may recall that I had some correspondence with you in early May regarding a forged Lincoln manuscript dated October 5, 1862 (Relative to Dr. Stipp). It turned out that you have the original correctly dated October 6, 1862.

As I am constantly searching for articles for our Lincoln Lore bulletin, and I think this would make an interesting topic, I will wish to compare the two documents by publishing photographs of each.

Will you please have your document photographed (both sides) for me. I will remit immediately all charges connected with this request.

Also, with your permission to publish the original, I will give your library a credit line.

Thanking you in advance for this favor, I remain

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM/mjh

Assistant Surgeon General
pleased per Dr. Steffen.

He says he is ordered
to Gen. McClellan's camp,
while his preparations -
tools, so to speak - are

at Corinth, Miss—
Not intending to interfere
by an order, I still
would be glad if his
colors be sent to Corinth.
Oct. 6, 1862. A. Lincoln

Amistade Surgeon General
pleases me Dr. Stepp.

He says he is ordered
to go. McClellan's camp
while his preparations took
so to speak and at least
into this. Miss. I still would
be glad if he could be
sent to Corvint.

Oct 5. 1862.

A. Lincoln

Forgery



Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Number 1615

Fort Wayne, Indiana

September, 1972

Tad Lincoln: Could He Have Written a Letter Or Telegram in 1864?

Could eleven year old Thomas "Tad" Lincoln have written a letter or telegram in the fall of 1864? The editor of the Summer 1972 (Volume XXIV—Number 3) issue of *Manuscripts* has published on the inside front cover a facsimile of a telegram dated October 6, 1864, addressed to Gustav Edward Gumpert, which presumably is in the handwriting of Tad. The telegram follows:

Executive Mansion
Washington, Oct. 6th, 1864

Dear Gumpert:

I send Thomas

Cross to see you about
the Carriage Bill. It was
sent to me Aand I ant
got any money to pay the
man with.

And Oblidge
Thomas Lincoln
Yur Friend
Tad

The above telegram is described as: "A rare A.L.S. of Tad Lincoln (signed with both full name and 'Tad') on Executive Mansion stationery. It concerns payment for a carriage bill Tad evidently incurred. From the collection of George T. Harding, Sr., M.D. and Herndon P. Harding, M.D." The document was originally the property of Dr. Charles W. Olsen (Barrett sale-1952).

On April 6, 1918, Robert T. Lincoln wrote Isaac Markens, and, in answer to his correspondent's question about the Tad letter (October 6, 1864), he made the statement that, "I do not remember at all any person named 'Gumpert,' to whom my brother Tad's letter was addressed. Thomas Cross, whom you speak of, was a colored servant, who did not permit himself to be forgotten by me for many years. This letter (see Paul M. Angle's: *A Portrait of Abraham Lincoln In Letters By His Oldest Son*, The Chicago Historical Society, 1968, page 58) was written by a boy eleven years old and is of course very crude. I fancy the carriage bill refers to a cart he used with a goat. There may have been some person named Gumpert in the Company which furnished the House sentinels, but I do not know."

By this late date, Robert had forgotten something he had related years earlier to another correspondent. On September 10, 1866 (two years after the telegram to Gumpert), Tad's elder brother wrote a Mrs. C. Dawes (?) in response to her request for autographs of the Lincoln family. He enclosed autographs of himself and his mother, Mary Todd Lincoln, but, as to Tad, he reported, "My brother is very young — and has not yet learned to write but will no doubt be happy to gratify you at some future time (Chicago Historical Society)."

Ruth Painter Randall in her book, *Lincoln's Sons*, Little, Brown and Company, 1955, wrote that, "Gustav Edward Gumpert . . . was a great friend of Tad's who lived in Philadelphia. He and his brothers had a store which Tad delighted to visit, sometimes opening the cash drawer and scattering its contents, and once riding a pony into the store itself, to the great consternation of the customers."

Mrs. Randall, in her book, discussed Tad's telegram on pages 197-198. She described it as being "written in

a far from well-trained handwriting," and after quoting it in full, she made the following statement: "This document has been much argued over because Mrs. Lincoln, subsequent to the writing of it, made several statements indicating that Tad could not write when he was in the White House and Mrs. Keckley's testimony gives the impression he could neither read nor write at that time." Elizabeth Keckley was Mrs. Lincoln's colored dressmaker as well as friend and confidant. Her book, *Behind The Scenes*, is believed to have been ghost-written.

Mrs. Randall further pointed out that, "On June 15, 1865, Mrs. Lincoln wrote from Chicago to Alexander Williamson, a young Scotsman who had been a tutor to Willie and Tad, that her youngest was ' . . . at length seized with the desire to read & write . . . I hope he will

Executive Mansion.

Oct 6th 1864

Dear Gumpert

I send Thomas
Cross to see you about
the Carriage Bill. It was
sent to me Aand I ant
got any money to pay the
man with.

And Oblidge
Thomas Lincoln
Yur Friend
Tad

From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

This letter-telegram was originally published in Mrs. Ruth Painter Randall's book, *Lincoln's Sons*, Little, Brown and Company, 1955. The document was then the property of Dr. Charles W. Olsen.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

This print of Tad Lincoln, from a carte-de-visite photograph, was taken in Mathew B. Brady's, Washington, D. C., studio.

be able to write by fall so that he may be able to write you a letter inviting you out here to see him."

Mrs. Randall commented that: "Perhaps the strongest statement Mrs. Lincoln made on the subject of Tad's backwardness in learning was that in her letter to Alexander Williamson on December 16, 1867. It was also written in Chicago. 'Taddie is well. Can now read, quite well — as he did not know his letters when he came, here, you will agree he learned rapidly.'"

Two days before sending the telegram under discussion, Tad wired Gumpert, "Gus, I want to know about that box you was to send me. Please let me know right away if you Please And Oblige Col Thomas Lincoln." Mrs. Randall noted that, "The 'Col' of course referred to the officer's commission which Tad had received from Secretary Stanton . . . A telegram signed by a colonel has a certain air of authority, which Tad doubtless liked, and, of course, such an officer has a perfect right to send his communications by military telegraph." Tad's army commission was usually designated as that of lieutenant. Perhaps it was the military commission that prompted Tad to send telegrams.

After revealing such convincing evidence that Tad could not read or write in 1864, Mrs. Randall evidently took another look at the telegram dated October 6, 1864. She asked her readers, "Were Mrs. Lincoln's statements literal or relative? Certainly the telegram of October 6, 1864, was not competent writing. Noah Brooks spoke of the time in the White House when Tad 'could scarcely read.' If he wrote that telegram," Mrs. Randall commented, "it could be stated truthfully that he could scarcely write. It has been suggested that when Mrs.

Lincoln wrote of his not knowing his letters she meant he could not repeat the alphabet. It also sometimes happens that a child learns to sign his name before he knows all his letters or can be said to write."

Mrs. Randall also compared Tad's unquestionably, genuine signature on a legal document, in the Illinois State Historical Library, dated 1867 which bears "a marked resemblance to the signature of the telegram in question." The two signatures can be compared in the Randall book entitled *Lincoln's Sons*.

Another Tad Lincoln telegram, which is likely unpublished, is to be found in the Foundation's archives:

Executive Mansion,
Washington, 30: Nov., 1864.

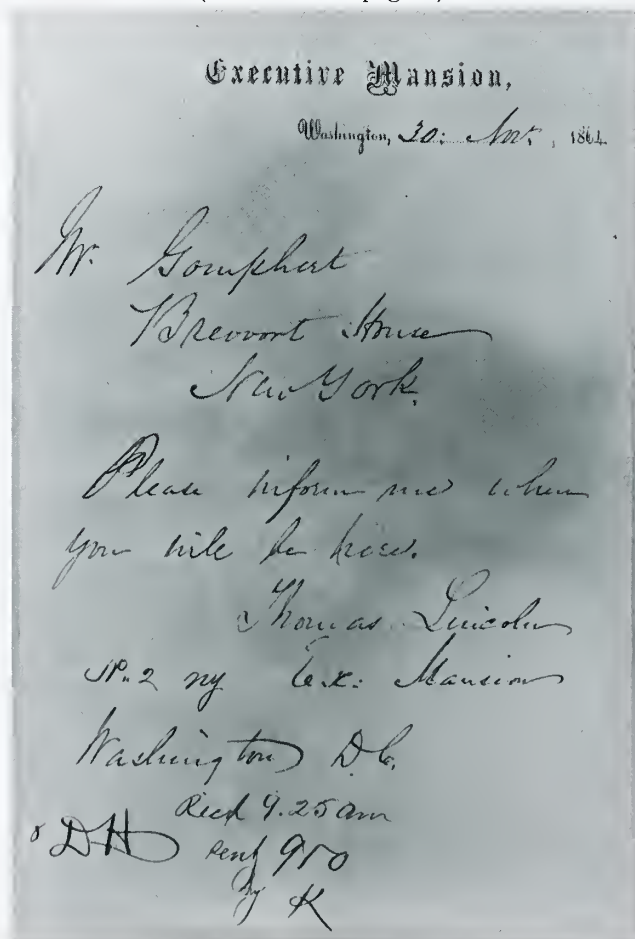
Mr. Gomphert
Brevoort House
New York.
Please inform me when
you will be here.

Thomas Lincoln
Ex. Mansion

No. 2 NY
Washington, D. C.
Recd 9.25 am
DH sent 910
By K

It has been suggested that Tad's telegrams were dictated by him and written down by any one around the Executive Mansion who was handy. Four of the original telegrams in the Illinois State Historical Library indicate at least two different handwritings. Mrs. Randall surmized that, "Tad got some semiliterate adult, perhaps a servant like Thomas Cross, to write out some of the telegrams, some grown-up person who knew so little he would write 'ant' for 'ain't.'"

A comparison of the document bearing the date of November 30, 1864 with that of October 6, 1864 reveals
(Continued on page 4)



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

A friendship with Tad Lincoln apparently required a constant involvement in his affairs.

A Lincoln Forgery

Dr. George Winfield Stipp of Bloomington, Illinois, was an "old personal friend" of Abraham Lincoln. On October 6, 1862, Lincoln wrote to Dr. Joseph R. Smith (surgeon with rank of major) the following letter: "Assistant Surgeon General please see Dr. Stipp. He says he is ordered to Gen. McClellan's camp while his preparations — tools, so to speak — are at Corinth, Miss. Not intending to interfere by an order, I still would be glad if he could be sent to Corinth. Oct. 6, 1862. A. Lincoln."

The above mentioned, original statement is written on both sides of a small card and is the property of the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. For some unexplained reason, it has been the pattern for a forgery, which was recently submitted to the Foundation for authentication.

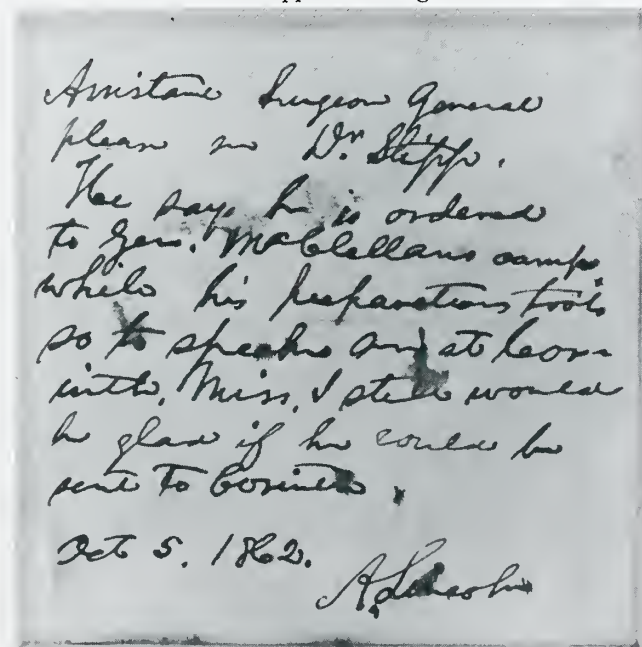
The forged document is written on one side of a sheet of paper of questionable texture, the date is different, the number of words to the line are unlike the original and several words appearing in the original document do not appear in the forged document. The small forgery was photographed and enlarged, and a study of the print seemed to indicate that the writer made a labored effort to copy Lincoln's handwriting. This fact was much more obvious in the photograph than in the forgery itself. The wording of the forged document follows:

"Assistant Surgeon General please see Dr. Stipp. He says he is ordered to Gen. McClellan's camp while his preparations tools so to speak are at Corinth, Miss. I still would be glad if he could be sent to Corinth. Oct. 5, 1862.

A. Lincoln."

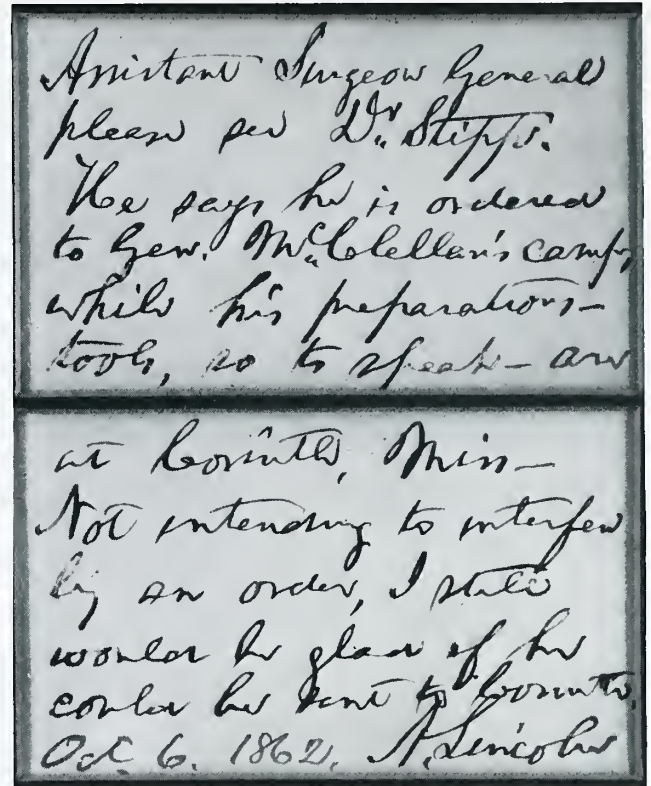
Again, Lincoln was called upon to help Dr. Stipp. Writing to Edward D. Townsend, he made the following request: "Dr. Stipp is my old personal friend, and I shall be very glad if he can, consistently with the public service, be assigned as he desires. June 24, 1863, A. Lincoln."

Medical Inspector Stipp had asked that "in consideration of my bad health . . . I may be assigned for duty, to the Department of Ohio, for a few months, in the hope & belief that a change of climate, water and diet, will aid materially, in restoring to me a measure of former health." Townsend referred the letter to Surgeon General Hammond, who recommended a leave of absence instead of the transfer, and on June 25 Townsend directed that a leave be granted. Roy P. Basler, in compiling information on Stipp for *The Collected Works Of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume VI, 1862-1863, noted that "Lieutenant Colonel Stipp was assigned as medical in-



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

The forged document which in many respects differs from the original.



From the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

The original document (two sides) written on a card and bearing the correct date of October 6, 1862.

spector of the Department of the Gulf on December 19, 1863."

So far as is known, Lincoln's endorsement of June 24, 1863 has not been a subject for the forger.

Perhaps Lincoln autograph collectors were much more gullible in the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's than they are today. Undoubtedly, the less sophisticated collector, even today, treasures questionable "Lincoln" documents which are the work of Joseph Cosey, Charles Weisberg, or maybe, Mrs. Lincoln's coachman.

It has been stated that a Lincoln document should pass five tests of authentication; namely, quality of paper, color of ink, date, provenance and literary quality. Maybe, too, it is not smart to make a forgery of an original document that has been published in *The Collected Works Of Abraham Lincoln*, where ownership, date and other details are so readily accessible.

"... Intimate Friends of the President ..."

John Crow, an attorney at Griggsville, Pike County, Illinois, wanted the appointment of pay master in the U.S. Army and he had some influential friends to vouch for him.

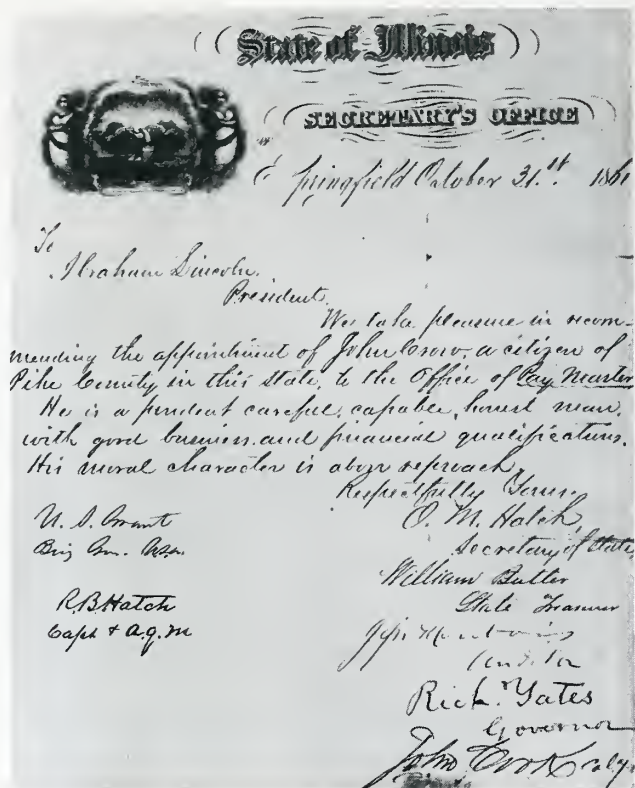
Ozias M. Hatch, a native of Griggsville and the Secretary Of State of Illinois, wrote a letter on his official stationery to President Abraham Lincoln on October 31st, 1861 stating that:

"We take pleasure in recommending the appointment of John Crow, a citizen of Pike County in this State, to the office of Pay Master.

"He is a prudent, careful, capable, honest man, with good business and financial qualifications. His moral character is above reproach.

Respectfully Yours,
O. M. Hatch,
Secretary of State . . ."

Other friends of Crow who signed the letter were William Butler, State Treasurer; Jesse K. Dubois, Audi-



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

This letter has been published in *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, Volume 3: October 1, 1861 — January 7, 1862, on Page 410.

tor; Richard Yates, Governor; John Cook, Colonel of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry; U. S. Grant, Brigadier-General; and Reuben B. Hatch, Captain of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry.

Undoubtedly, this letter received the attention of President Lincoln, because his private secretary, John Hay, made the following notation on the back of the document:

"Respectfully referred by the President to the consideration of the Secretary of War (Simon Cameron). The names attached are intimate friends of the President and the most worthy citizens of Illinois. Dec. 14, 1861."

When this original document was purchased for the Lincoln Library-Museum, it was thought that it would be relatively easy to identify John Crow and determine whether or not he received the appointment of pay master. A diligent search failed to disclose an answer. Later on, it was discovered that the letter appears in *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, Volume 3: October 1, 1861-January 7, 1862, on page 410. There the statement is made by the editor, John Y. Simon, that, "No record of the appointment of John Crow has been found."

With the acquisition of the above mentioned document, the Foundation now has in its archives 225 original letters addressed to President Lincoln.

Tad Lincoln

(Continued from page 2)

that the former was written by a more sophisticated scribe. However, whoever he was misspelled the name of Gumpert. Nevertheless, he recorded such detailed information as to when the telegram was sent and received, and he even identified the telegraph operator by initial.

The reader will have to draw his own conclusions as to whether or not Tad Lincoln could write a letter or telegram in 1864. The editor is inclined to believe that Tad Lincoln, while a resident in the Executive Mansion, could not write and that all of his letters or telegrams were written for him.

Former and Future Presidents Addressed Letters to Abraham Lincoln

In the archives of the Lincoln Library-Museum, are to be found three letters (not including the letter signed by General Ulysses S. Grant featured in this issue of *Lincoln Lore*) addressed to Abraham Lincoln by a former President and two future Presidents. The first two letters were published in the July, 1957 (No. 1433) issue of *Lincoln Lore*. The first letter by Millard Fillmore follows:

Buffalo, March 8, 1861

His Excellency
Abraham Lincoln

Sir,

The bearer, E. C. Sprague, Esq. visits Washington on business and has requested me to give him a letter of introduction to your excellency, which I do with great pleasure, as I have known Mr. Sprague from his childhood, and have a very high regard for him as a gentleman of intelligence and high moral character.

He studied law in my office and is now a partner of my son, and occupies a high rank in his profession, and I may add (without being suspected of partizanship) that he is a devoted Republican.

I am Respectfully and
Truly Yours
Millard Fillmore

The second letter by Ulysses S. Grant follows:
Headquarters, Depts. of the Ten.
Millikins Bend, La., April 12/63

A. Lincoln
President of the United States
Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter and also one from General Sherman,* to Thos. D. Knox, correspondent of the New York Herald in reply to his application to be permitted to remain in this Dept.

I send these knowing the propensity of persons to misrepresent grounds taken in matters when they are personally interested and fearing that in this case, it might be represented that your wishes had not met with the respect due them.

As stated in my letter the wish of the president will always have the favor and respect of an order.

I am very respectfully
Your Obt. svt.
U. S. Grant
Maj. Gen. Vols.

* Copies of the original correspondence sent to Thos. D. Knox of the *New York Herald* accompany this original letter.

The third letter by Andrew Johnson follows:
State of Tennessee
Executive Department
Nashville, December 3, 1864

His Excellency
Abraham Lincoln
President United States
Washington
D. C.

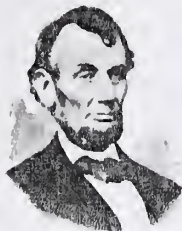
Mr. President,
Permit me
to introduce to you, Mr. A. F. Lillard of Marshal County Tennessee, —
Mr. Lillard is represented to me as being a truly Loyal Man, and desires an interview with you on Some business which he will make known

I am very respectfully
Your Ob't Serv't
Andrew Johnson

Lincoln's Autograph

About fifteen years ago, a simple signature of Lincoln (Abraham Lincoln is likely more valuable than A. Lincoln) was valued between \$50 to \$100. Before the 1920's, Lincoln's signature cut from legal documents sold for as little as \$2.50 to \$5.00. Early in the 1920's, they brought from \$12.50 to \$15.00. Today a Lincoln signature is worth from \$150 to \$200.

*Forgery
files*



THE LOUIS A. WARREN
LINCOLN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

1300 SOUTH CLINTON STREET / FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46801

MARK E. NEELY, JR.
Director

August 22, 1979

Telephone (219) 424-5421

Mr. Marcius E. Taber
70 W. St. Joe Street
Hillsdale, MI 49242

Dear Mr. Taber:

Thank you very much for the Hawthorne, California edition of Lincoln Money Martyred. It is a curiously long-lived book, first published in the 1930s and still, as we can see, capable of revival.

What it says about Lincoln is based on a tissue of notorious forgeries. There is absolutely no evidence that the "Dick Taylor" letter was written by anyone but Taylor himself. Does it not seem strange that Lincoln would turn to a man in an hour of crisis who had been his political enemy for years? In a letter to John Todd Stuart written on March 26, 1840, Lincoln said:

The Locos [Democrats] have no candidates on the track yet, except Dick Taylor for the Senate. Last saturday he made a speech, and [William L.] May answered him. The way May let the wind out of him, was a perfect wonder. The court room was verry full, and neither you nor I ever saw a crowd in this county so near all one side, and all feeling so good before.

As for the fantastic charge that Booth was the tool of some Jewish banker from England, there is not one piece of supporting documentary evidence. This story, frankly, smacks of antisemitism. R. E. Search himself gives no documentary proof and can only come up with some mysterious old stranger--unnamed, of course--who tells him the story in the middle of the night in the 1930s. The writer is so gullible that he quotes Lloyd Lewis's description of a myth about Lincoln as the very reverse, a description of the truth.

Ironically, R. E. Search could not be farther from the truth when he suggests that Lincoln somehow opposed central banking. He spent most of

Mr. Marcius E. Taber

August 22, 1979

Page 2

his early career in politics in the Whig party and gave speech after speech in support of the Second Bank of the United States and a similar institution on the state level, the Illinois State Bank. Sample the speeches in volume one of Roy P. Basler, ed., The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln.

Of course, we collect all Lincoln books. Our criterion is that they be about Lincoln, not that they tell the truth. This one contains very little of that precious commodity.

Sincerely yours,

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/vpg
Enclosure

February 24, 1984

Dear Ms. Cook,

Per our conversation of this date, I enclose herewith the one picture I have of the note.

The blotch to the left of the greeting has deteriorated. Someone put a piece of old tape behind it in an apparent effort to preserve it. There has been tape applied to the back of the paper from left of same to right; and from top center to bottom. I am not familiar with the tape; it is not modern day. The ink is still black, and I am given to understand that it should now be brown due to the iron content. However, it has been suggested that possibly the President was supplied with a better quality ink.

If the greeting was to a Gen. Wadsworth, according to "The War Years, Carl Sanburg, Volume III, page 48," Gen. Wadsworth was killed and Lincoln was advised on 5/14/'64 of the fact and he had one of the most depressing days of his tenure in office to date.

I am of the impression that there was one William H. Wadsworth, a Congressman from N.Y., who was in office on 2-10-65 and that he voted on a Bill before Congress on that date pertaining to the drafting of men for the armed services.

From what I have read, people were allowed to roam the halls of the Executive Mansion at that time, and consistently tried to obtain favors from the President. This raises the question in my mind as to the possibility of Lincoln using a note of this nature just to pacify a persistent person whom he had difficulty passing off?

The "A" in the signature is not consistent with some I have seen in the fact that the loop at the bottom starting the initial does not come to the bottom of the balance of his letters. However, could it be that the note was not written from a desk or a sitting position? Also, from what little knowledge I have, he was under a great deal of stress at this time and had lost 30 pounds. Was this reflected in his handwriting?

Whatever the case, it has given me pleasure in becoming a little more familiar with the man. I would appreciate your expert feelings on the matter at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

B. L. Quincy

1014 9TH ST. N. W.

WATERTOWN, S. D. 57201

*Mark: It doesn't look like
Lincoln's handwriting.
Rich*

Gen. Mediatth,

please see & hear this young
man & ascertain if he can be
of service to you.

Mincola

Executive Mansion
Washington
Feb. 10 1865

Quinn

March 1, 1984

Mr. C. L. Quinn
1014 9th Street, N.W.
Watertown, South Dakota 57201

Dear Mr. Quinn:

I am returning your photograph. Upon viewing it, I immediately decided it was not Lincoln's handwriting, but I am no expert. Our Director, Mark E. Neely, Jr., just returned from a speaking engagement and I showed the photo to him. He agreed it is not Lincoln's writing.

Also, it does appear the note is addressed to Gen. Wedsworth after looking at it with a magnifying glass.

I am sorry I didn't have better news for you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ruth F. Cook
Assistant to Dr. Neely

REC/jaf

Enclosure - his photograph.

Forgeries fool even the experts

Lincoln love letters, spy memoirs, war diaries . . . all faked

By CRAIG R. MCCOY

Of Knight-Ridder Newspapers

John Toland, a noted historian of World War II, joined the fray with glee when he and other scholars debated the authenticity of 62 diaries supposedly kept by Adolf Hitler.

"It's delightful," said Toland, who thinks the documents are fake.

Feeling less ebullient, perhaps, was Hugh Trevor-Roper, the respected British historian who first endorsed the diaries as legitimate.

That sinking feeling fell a little lower this week when the West German government concluded Friday that at least three of the 62 volumes are "obvious fakes."

But if Trevor-Roper made a grave error in judgment, it would not be the first time historians or the news media have made such a misstep.

In years past, the dubious documents that have won acceptance as historically accurate vary from the armless to the helpful to the lethal.

For example, "Mary Chesnut's

Civil War," which tells the story of a woman who presided over a plantation during the Civil War, has been hailed as a literary masterpiece.

But in fact, Chesnut carefully rewrote her diary 16 years after the war, fashioning it into a narrative that, not surprisingly, received praise for almost a century for its prophetic and novelistic qualities.

One forged historical document of a considerably more sinister nature was the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," which purported to outline a meeting held in Basel, Switzerland, at which Jewish leaders sketched their plans for conquest of the world.

In fact, the "Protocols" were drafted in the late 1800s at the instigation of the Russian czarist secret police.

Among those who found the "Protocols" credible were Hitler and automotive pioneer Henry Ford, though Ford finally admitted it was a fake.

But cash — rather than bigotry —

appears to provide the motivation for many forgeries.

According to reports, the Sunday Times paid about \$1.5 million for the British publication rights to the diaries, while Newsweek offered \$3 million to West Germany's Stern magazine during its unsuccessful negotiation to publish them in the United States.

Those sums represent a significant escalation from some recently perpetrated hoaxes. Clifford Irving, who forged an autobiography in 1971 of reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes, had received \$650,000 from McGraw-Hill Inc. before his scheme unraveled. Ultimately, he netted 17 months in prison.

And money, evidently, was what spurred one Wilma Minor, in a notorious case in the 1920s, to go to Atlantic magazine with forged letters between Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, supposedly his childhood sweetheart.

The Atlantic printed two install-

ments of those letters before the woman confessed that "the spirits of Ann and Abe were speaking through my mother to me so that my gifts as a (spiritual) medium could hand in something worthwhile to the world."

In more recent times, intelligence units on both sides of the Iron Curtain have engaged in their share of forgery — with some of their efforts having long shelf lives.

It was only in 1976, in one paragraph of a 651-page Senate intelligence committee report, that confirmation came that the CIA had doctored "The Penkovsky Papers" 11 years before.

Oleg Penkovsky was a spy for the United States who moved among Soviet military circles in Moscow until he was arrested in 1962 and shot a year later. His purported memoirs, published by Doubleday & Co., depicted the Soviet leaders as decadent sorts who would be quick on the nuclear trigger.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The secrets of Hitler's war

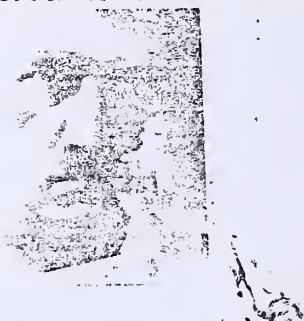


Photo: Associated Press

The Sunday Times of London bought and touted the Hitler "diaries," which have been debunked by the Bonn government.

Sotheby's Says Boone Letter Is a Fake

By ROBERT LINDSEY

Special to The New York Times

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 8 — Sotheby's, the auction house, has acknowledged a historic letter purportedly written by Daniel Boone that was sold at auction in New York City for \$31,900 in 1985 was a forgery.

The company has repurchased the document from an unidentified buyer and is demanding that a previous investor in the letter, a cousin of a convicted murderer and forger, Mark W. Hofmann, return his proceeds from the sale. But Mr. Hofmann's cousin, Kenneth Wooley, a Salt Lake City businessman, said that he had not known the document was forged, that Sotheby's had had the document's authenticity verified by scholars knowledgeable about Mr. Boone, and therefore he is not obligated to return the money.

The incident has focused new attention on Mr. Hofmann, who early this year pleaded guilty to murdering two people with pipe bombs here Oct. 15, 1985, in an effort to conceal a six-year forgery scheme from which he may have derived as much as \$3 million.

Until now most interest in the case has centered on Mr. Hofmann's forgery of controversial historical documents regarding the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. But investigators say Mr. Hofmann also appears to have forged scores, possibly hundreds, of non-Mormon documents purportedly signed by historical figures such as Shakespeare, Abraham Lincoln, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain and George Washington that were sold by him and others to private collectors around the nation.

Genesis of Legend

Many purchasers, they say, may still be unaware that the documents are forgeries. And investigators add that documents produced by Mr. Hofmann are likely to be offered for sale and trade by collectors for decades.

Sotheby's auctioned the Daniel Boone letter Oct. 31, 1985, before a large group of wealthy collectors that included Malcolm Forbes, the publisher. Although the text of the letter had been known since it was published in the 1830's, the letter itself was thought to have disappeared, and its purported unearthing aroused substantial interest among collectors of Americana.

Sotheby's catalogue for the sale, as had some Boone scholars previously, suggested that the April 1, 1775, letter from Boone to a business associate, Col. Richard Henderson, was the genesis of the legend that emerged later of Boone as a fearless explorer and Indian fighter.

In the letter, the frontiersman re-

The forged letter's trail leads to Utah and murder.

ported leading a party of men through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky, fighting Indians along the way and blazing what was to become known as the Wilderness Road. The price paid for the letter was the highest ever for a document pertaining to Daniel Boone, according to collectors.

In an interview, Mr. Wooley said Mr. Hofmann claimed to have acquired the letter from a descendant of Colonel Henderson, who lived in North Carolina. He said Mr. Hofmann persuaded him to invest \$50,000 in a partnership to buy the forged letter, along with other purported Boone documents. Later, he said, after Mr. Hofmann had consigned the letter for sale at Sotheby's, he assigned proceeds from the sale to Mr. Wooley to settle a debt.

Under a plea agreement in which the state said it would not press for

the death penalty, Mr. Hofmann is serving a sentence of from five years to life in the Utah State Prison. Although Mr. Hofmann has previously admitted forging a number of Mormon documents and others from early American history, the authenticity of the Boone letter had not been tested until recently.

'Classic' Hofmann Forgery

Kenneth Farnsworth, the Salt Lake City detective who headed the murder investigation, said that after he discovered the transaction during the course of his murder investigation, he advised Sotheby's of the possibility that the Boone letter was a forgery and requested to see it. But he said officials of the auction house did not answer his correspondence or return his phone calls.

"It was a classic Mark Hofmann forgery: there is a noted historical document, its whereabouts are unknown, and there is a transcript available," Mr. Farnsworth said.

In response to an inquiry, a spokeswoman for Sotheby's acknowledged that the company had purchased the document back from its original buyer after an expert had determined that it was not genuine. William Flynn, a forensic criminologist for the Arizona Department of Public Safety, was the specialist who evaluated the document, which its buyer had mounted on a coyote skin after submitting the winning bid at Sotheby's.

The Sotheby's spokeswoman said that while forgeries have occasionally been detected by the auction house in the past, forgers generally prefer to sell documents directly to buyers or through dealers. Because "an auction house is such a public forum," it increases chances that fraudulent documents will be detected.

**SEND A CITY CHILD TO CAMP:
GIVE TO THE FRESH AIR FUND**

Sotheby's Buys Back A Forgery

By ROBERT LINDSEY

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SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

FEBRUARY 1994

\$3.95

Do aerosols slow climatic warming?

Halting the spread of AIDS.

Can particle physics come back?

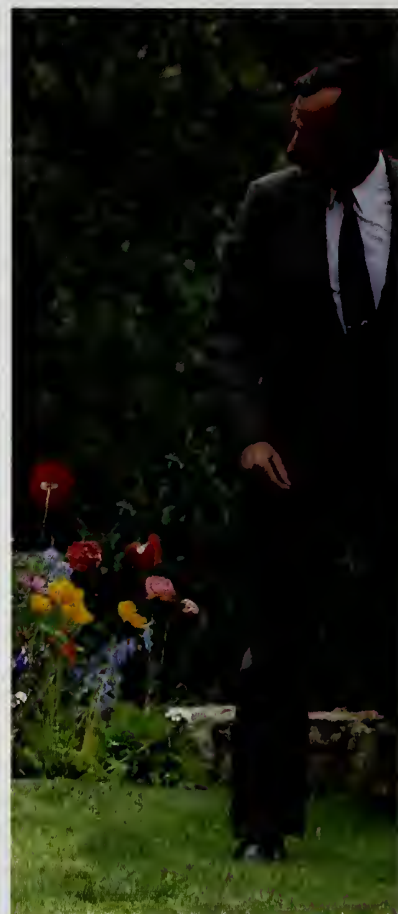


Digital forgery can create photographic evidence for events that never happened.

When Is Seeing Believing?

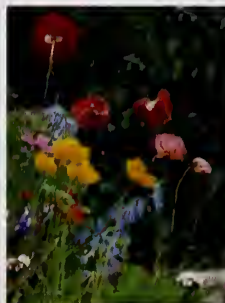
*Digital technology for manipulating images
has subverted the certainty of photographic evidence*

by William J. Mitchell



The Manipulation Process

To create the "angry" image (*above, center*) from the original photograph (*above, left*), the computer artist first silhouetted the flowers out of the background. Next he cloned foliage from the upper right of the original and used it as a "paintbrush" to stipple greenery that replaces the porch behind the flowers in the original photograph. He softened, or blurred, Bush's outline and surround, a process called vignet-
ting, and slid them under the silhouet-



ted flowers. All the shrubbery behind the pair was blurred slightly.

The artist then silhouetted the rock in front of Thatcher and flipped it. The ferns that conceal the end of the hose in the



In September 1993 newspapers around the world published an astonishing—almost unbelievable—photograph of Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin shaking hands with Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat on the White House lawn while President Bill Clinton looked on. In 1988 *Life* magazine published an equally striking picture of Chairman Arafat warmly greeting then Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir under the approving gaze of President Ronald Reagan. One of these images recorded an actual event and provided reliable evidence that peace was perhaps at hand in the Middle East. The other was a computer-manipulated composite, a tongue-in-cheek fiction.

Such fake “photographs” can now be produced by using widely available “paint” and image-processing software to rearrange, recolor and otherwise transform the elements of a scene. The same software can combine fragments of differ-

ent images into one new image. Other software can generate completely synthetic photorealistic pictures by applying sophisticated perspective projection and shading to digital models of three-dimensional scenes—a technique commonly employed to present architectural projects and to create Hollywood special effects.

Unlike drawings and paintings, which we regard as inherently untrustworthy products of human intention, these fakes can easily trick us into false beliefs. Like fingerprints

DIGITAL MANIPULATION of news photographs can become a novel form of spin doctoring. Two of these pictures were manipulated to suggest different emotions. What actually took place between George Bush and Margaret Thatcher—a chat, a quarrel or an intimate whisper?



original had to be duplicated and expanded to give the hose some place to go in the new image. And to the right of Bush's extended leg is a piece of the wall duplicated from that just to the right of the hose in the original. The new fern softens the transition between the two pieces of wall as well as hiding the hose.

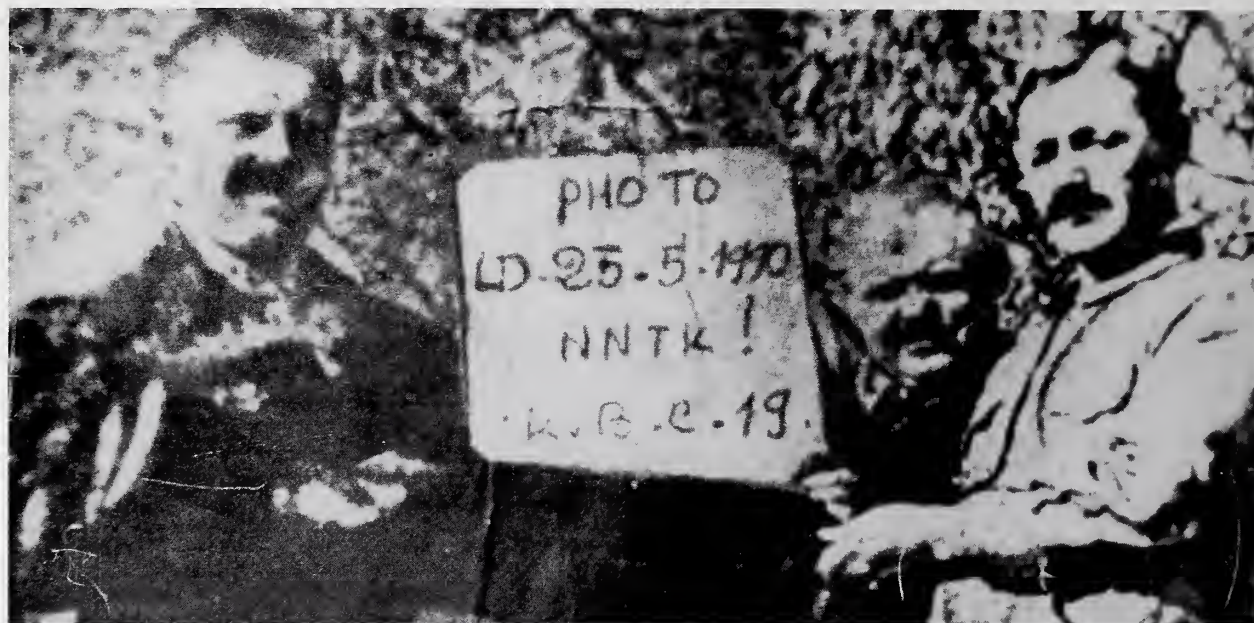
In the “intimate whisper” image (above, right), Bush's vignettted surround was slid over the leafy shrub between him and Thatcher: Bush replaces bush.



Cut-and-Paste Photomontage

Traditional cut-and-paste methods transformed a 1923 photograph showing three Soviet farmers (*bottom*) into "evidence" that surfaced in July 1991 of the continued imprisonment of three lost fliers in Vietnam (*top*).

Conventional photomontages, except when they are produced with great care by highly skilled artists, are relatively easy to detect as fakes. This one has many imperfections that give it away.



Look closely at the Stalinesque mustaches—especially the one on the left. Do they look fully convincing? Can you detect the handwork?

Should we read the sign as a foreshortened rectangle (with the right edge nearer the camera than the left) or as an irregular shape? Is it in front of the figure on the left, or is it behind? What is holding it up? (Note the hand at the top left in the original.) The spatial ambiguities suggest that it was pasted in.

Notice the fuzziness and poor tonal quality. This blurring may be deliberate, to conceal some of the imperfections. It also suggests generational loss resulting from rephotographing rather than printing from an original negative.

left at the scene of a crime or lipstick traces on a collar, they apparently result from causal rather than intentional processes and therefore seem accurate and dependable evidence of what actually took place.

Faking photographs to manipulate belief is not new. Multiple exposure and printing, cutting-and-pasting and retouching have frequently been used for hoaxes and for political propaganda. In the 19th century, for example, "spirit photographs" were produced by double exposure, and in the Stalinist era propagandists airbrushed the politically inconvenient Trotsky out of a famous photograph depicting Lenin addressing a crowd on May 5, 1920. But digital images make production of photographic falsehoods quicker and easier—and often much more difficult to trace. The question of how to distinguish visual fact from fiction is becoming increasingly urgent as we witness the explosive proliferation of digital-imaging technology. We are approaching the point at which most of the images that we see in our daily lives, and that form our understanding of the world, will have been digitally recorded, transmitted and processed.

Close inspection of traditional photomontages often reveals clear physical evidence of the doctoring that has taken place [see illustration above]. Printing masks and knife cuts may produce implausibly sharp edges; pencil marks and paint dabs may stand out against surrounding grainy textures; blends and reconstructions of surface textures may be imperfect; colors may not quite match. But digital images are manipulated by altering pixel values stored in computer memory rather than by mechanically altering surfaces. Therefore, digital photomontages typically show far fewer traces of the artist's hand. Furthermore, software for producing digital composites often simplifies the artist's task to such an extent that it may no longer take much time or much craftsmanship. Such software offers effective tools for tracing and blending edges, matching tones and colors and replicating textures. Thus, the fact that an image presents a seamless surface no longer provides strong grounds for concluding that it has not been manipulated. We must look for other kinds of clues—such as internal consistency, documentable provenance and consistency with existing beliefs.

Digital Photomontage

Digital photomontage of seven astronauts on the surface of the moon was produced from an original photograph made in 1969 by NASA of a single astronaut, Edwin F. Aldrin, Jr. (*bottom*). This montage is of high tech-

nical quality; it is carefully contrived to seem spatially consistent, and sophisticated digital technology has eliminated any obvious signs of cutting and pasting. So how can we tell it is a fake?



There is an obvious internal inconsistency. Because the composition was produced from scaled-down replicas of the original figure, the reflections in the visors are incorrect. Each shows the image of just one other astronaut, not the several we would expect.

There is implausible repetition—good grounds for suspecting the image was produced by replication operations. Is it likely that all the astronauts except one would be holding their left arms in precisely the same position?

There are some questionable cast shadows. The artist had to insert these with a digital "paintbrush" and faced the difficult task of making them consistent with the rough terrain. Do those at the back stand up to close, critical inspection?

Such flaws and inconsistencies are very obvious once they have been pointed out, but they often go unnoticed at first glance. A skilled forger attempts to anticipate the types of cross-checking that a suspicious viewer will perform, then adjusts the visual evidence accordingly.

Freedom from internal inconsistencies does not demonstrate the veracity of an image. The existence of such flaws may, however, serve to refute claims that an image is a photographic transcription of physical reality [see *illustration above*]. Here are a few of the more obvious questions to ask when looking for inconsistencies. Do all the objects in the scene seem to be in correct perspective? Does the perspective foreshortening of a surface seem consistent with the spatial orientation suggested by its shading? Do indicators of time, such as clocks and shadows, all show the same moment of exposure? Do some objects seem surprisingly light

or dark in relation to their surroundings? Are inserted objects betrayed by lack of shadows or by shadows cast at angles different from those cast by other objects? Are there shadows that do not seem to be cast by any object? Are shadows and specular highlights consistent with the assumptions about locations of light sources? Do unexpected discontinuities in the background of the scene suggest that objects have been deleted from the foreground? Do shiny surfaces display the expected reflections of other parts of the scene? Are surface intensities appropriately modified by diffuse interreflection effects? Are there plausible texture

Creating the Cover Image

For base images, the computer artist chose a publicity still of Marilyn Monroe made to promote *The Seven-Year Itch* in 1955 and a formal portrait taken of Abraham Lincoln in 1863 (1). To yield a richer final image, he

scanned these black-and-white pictures into the computer as if they were in color. Once he had the images digitized, he flipped the Monroe photograph across its vertical axis and silhouetted her out of the background (2). In the Lin-

1



2



3



coln image, he extended the left side of the floor (3); the piece shown floating in space was copied and duplicated several times to provide the additional pattern needed.

Next he filled the wall in roughly (4) in preparation for the silhouetted figure of Monroe, which he placed on top of the Lincoln image (5). He masked the two figures from the

4



5



6



surrounding area so that the background could be evened out without affecting them (6). Close-ups (7) show Monroe before and after "noise" was added to degrade her image

to match that of the older Lincoln photograph. (The noise function, which is built into the software, adds random pixels.) To provide Monroe with a hand and arm that she



8



9



could tuck under Lincoln's elbow, the artist made a video of his wife holding the arm of his assistant (8), using lighting that simulated that in the original photographs. He

then froze a frame of the video and captured it in his computer. The video was converted from color to gray scale and composited into the Lincoln-Monroe image (9).



WHICH VERSION IS A TRUTHFUL DEPICTION? Most people have no way to judge which of these two images produced for low-resolution video portrays the actual building. No internal clues reveal the fake. Scholars of Italian Renaissance architecture, however, can immediately recognize that the version with the tower (*right*) is Andrea Palladio's published but unbuilt scheme for the Villa Godi, whereas the version

without a tower (*left*) shows the design that was actually constructed. The image of the unbuilt project was produced by shifting windows and chimneys, extending the narrow steps and replicating fragments of wall and roof surface to delineate the tower. Increasingly, our capacity to sort visual facts from falsehoods will rest on our ability to cross-check the visual evidence against established knowledge and beliefs.

gradients as surfaces recede? Do geometric perspective (size diminution with depth into the scene) and atmospheric perspective (color shift with depth) convey the same depth information? Is there a consistent gradient of sharpness from some focus plane?

In general, the more information there is in an image, the more difficult it is to change without introducing detectable inconsistencies. It is, for example, much easier to alter a fuzzy, low-resolution, dimly lit, black-and-white image than it is to do the same with a sharp, high-resolution, full-color picture. A photographic manipulator, like a dissembler who weaves a tangled web of lies and eventually trips himself up, runs the risk of being caught out by some subtle inconsistency that shows up when the visual evidence is carefully cross-checked.

Fully synthetic images produced by three-dimensional visualization software may, however, be free of such defects. Carefully modeled three-dimensional scenes, rendered in shaded perspective by ray tracing or radiosity (which calculate the interreflection of light within a scene), can simulate all the complex effects of light and shade that even the most demanding observer expects to see. Some fictional "photographs" may readily pass the internal consistency test.

We must then turn to such other criteria as the provenance of the picture. Because a photograph is exposed at a specific time and place, we can always ask to hear the story of how the photographer came to be at that very spot at that exact moment. Furthermore, we can ask for an account of how the picture subsequently made its way from the point of exposure to its present location. Sometimes the general credibility of a source—whether, for example, a purported picture of the surface of Mars is published in *Nature* or in a supermarket tabloid—can stand as a surrogate for an explicit narrative.

The provenance of a traditional photograph is often easy to trace, because exposed films, negatives and prints must be carried physically from place to place and because developing and printing must be performed in suitably equipped darkrooms. Digital-imaging technology makes this job much tougher: it eliminates negatives, it can replicate files in seconds, and digital images can be transmitted rapidly and invisibly through computer and telephone networks.

The subtlest challenge is posed by images that show no detectable signs of tampering and no obvious internal inconsistencies and yet contradict our established beliefs. Let us say, for example, we do not believe Elvis Presley still lives but are presented by an apparently reputable source with a sharp, detailed "photograph" of him in a recognizably contemporary setting. We can either maintain our confidence in the reliability of prior evidence that Elvis is dead and reject the image as a visual falsehood, or we can accept the new evidence before us and correspondingly modify our beliefs. Such intellectual judgments will be increasingly crucial and increasingly difficult to make with confidence in a world where convincing visual evidence can be faked with ease.

For a century and a half, photographic evidence has seemed unassailably probative. Chemical photography's temporary standardization and stabilization of the process of image making effectively served the purposes of an era dominated by science, exploration and industrialization. Photographs appeared to be reliably manufactured commodities, readily distinguishable from other types of depictions. They were generally regarded as causally generated, truthful reports about things in the real world, unlike more traditionally handcrafted images, which seemed notoriously ambiguous and uncertain human constructions. The emergence of digital imaging has irrevocably subverted these certainties, forcing us all to adopt a far more wary and vigilant interpretive stance. The information superhighway will bring us a growing flood of visual information in digital format, but we will have to take great care to sift the facts from the fictions and the falsehoods.

WILLIAM J. MITCHELL is author of *The Reconfigured Eye: Visual Truth in the Post-Photographic Era* (MIT Press, 1992). He is professor of architecture and media arts and sciences and dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research focuses on computational techniques and digital media in design and the visual arts. His previous publications include *The Logic of Architecture* (MIT Press, 1990) and, with Malcolm McCullough, *Digital Design Media* (Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1991).

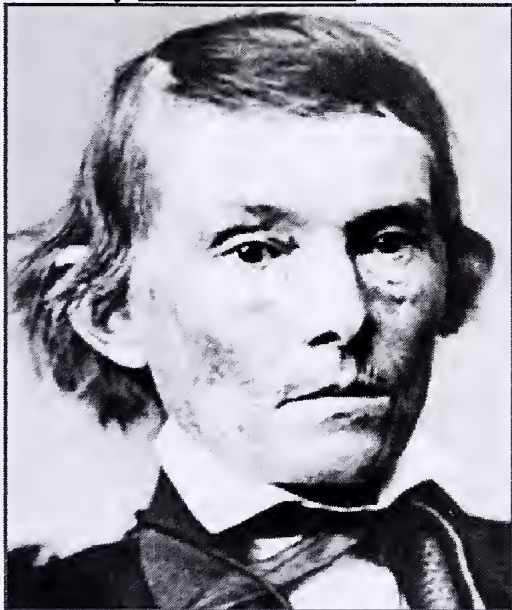
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30

Jan

We Got Punked, Lincoln Forgery-Style

Posted by [Matthew Pinsker](#) Published in [Antebellum \(1840-1861\)](#), [Letters & Diaries](#), [Recent News](#)



Alexander Stephens

It was bound to happen sooner or later. Last week, sadly, we discovered that there was a forged document in the House Divided research engine. David Gerleman from the [Papers of Abraham Lincoln](#) contacted us to point out that a letter supposedly written by Abraham Lincoln to Georgia politician (and future Confederate Vice President) Alexander Stephens, dated January 19, 1860, was a known Lincoln forgery. The letter (since removed) was full of memorable and sometimes unLincolnian statements about the sectional crisis and ended with the line: "This is the longest letter I ever dictated or wrote." Since Lincoln was not in the habit of dictating anything at all (especially in those pre-presidential days), this was a document that should have set off warning bells. But it was published as part of a pamphlet that had been produced during the centennial of Lincoln's birth in 1909 and even now remains in wide circulation on the Internet and elsewhere. A recent scholarly article in the *Tulane Law Review* by John Inazu ("The Forgotten Freedom of Assembly" 2010) even began by quoting from it. Yet there was no such exchange with Stephens. For a full discussion of the problems with the alleged January 19, 1860 document, see the article, "Four Spurious Lincoln Letters" in the *Bulletin of the Abraham Lincoln Association* 21 (Dec. 1930): 5-9, available online [here](#)). You can view the text of the forged document at the [Internet Archive](#) (where we apparently found it) inside a pamphlet edited by noted Lincoln collector Judd Stewart and entitled, *Some Lincoln Correspondence with Southern Leaders Before the Outbreak of the Civil War* (1909). Stewart was

one of the so-called “Big Five” of early Lincoln collectors and was careless enough to fall victim to these types of scams (his collection, stripped of several other faked items, is now housed at the Huntington Library in California). During the decades after Lincoln’s assassination, there was practically a land office business in Lincoln forgeries, and their ripple effects are still being felt today. I exposed one of these problems in 1999 when actor Warren Beatty and journalist Jonathan Alter used a phony Lincoln quotation about the evils of big corporations that had originally been ginned up during the Populist era and continues to be quoted and re-quoted today despite numerous debunkings. History News Network reprinted the piece in 2005 when author Kevin Phillips and historian Paul Kennedy both made the same mistake of admiring a Lincoln who sounded suspiciously like William Jennings Bryan. What’s the lesson in all this for teachers and students? **Check your sources.** We never should have used a 1909 pamphlet for a Lincoln document when the *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln* (8 vols., 1953; 1974, 1990) is the current gold standard in Lincoln’s writings (though the online Papers of Abraham Lincoln, where Gerleman works, will soon become the new AAA-rated repository for all things Lincolniana). And always remember, when a story or document seems too “good” to be true ... it just very well might be.



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Geoff Elliott said in January 30th, 2012 at 9:12 am

In more than 40 years of research and reading about Lincoln, I have come to understand that there are many forgeries of his writing. In addition, probably more than 50% of the “quotes” attributed to him are untrue as well.

When I post to my Abraham Lincoln Blog or present lectures, I always double and triple-check the “facts” I write or talk about. Doing so saves embarrassment and helps to preserve the accuracy of what is written about this great man.

Thank you for admitting the error, which was obviously unintentional.



Mike Kienzler said in January 30th, 2012 at 4:38 pm

written by Stephen A. Douglas to James Lemen, Jr. The letter was dated Springfield, Illinois, March 10, 1857, and bore the following undated postscript: "I wrote this letter in Springfield, but by an oversight neglected to mail it there. But if you write me in a fortnight, direct to Springfield, as I expect to be there then." However, the Journal of the Senate of the United States for 1856-57 shows that on March 10, 1857, the Senate was in session and that Stephen A. Douglas voted in the one roll call of the day. The Douglas letter is a forgery.

In the opinion of the writer of this paper, the deficiencies of the letter from Lincoln to Lemen cannot be satisfactorily explained.

In 1909 Judd Stewart of New Jersey, one of the first collectors of Lincolniana, published a pamphlet entitled *Some Lincoln Correspondence with Southern Leaders before the Outbreak of the Civil War, from the Collection of Judd Stewart*. Among the letters there printed was one from Lincoln to John J. Crittenden, dated Springfield, Illinois, December 22, 1859, and one from Lincoln to Alexander H. Stephens, dated Springfield, Illinois, January 19, 1860. Both letters, Mr. Stewart stated, were printed from copies rather than from the originals, but their authenticity was established by a certificate from Stephens himself.

Close students of Lincoln's writings have long doubted the genuineness of these letters, basing their suspicions on the variance of the content from Lincoln's known views, on the noticeable absence of his clarity of style, and on the presence of a truculence out of keeping with his character. Doubts,

however, collided at once with Stephen's signed authentication, and generally relapsed to a state of passive distrust.

It remained for Mr. Worthington C. Ford, then Editor of the Massachusetts Historical Society, to attack the problem in earnest. Aroused by what he described as the "false note" in these letters, Mr. Ford commenced an investigation which resulted in definite proof that both were spurious. It is unnecessary here to present more than the briefest summary of his findings, which were fully set forth in the *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society* for May-June, 1928.

The argument starts with the certificate of genuineness given by Stephens, now in the Henry E. Huntington Library. This document, dated Executive Department, Atlanta, Georgia, January 19, 1883 and signed Alexander H. Stephens, is addressed to Col. Henry Whitney Cleveland, and certifies that the copy of Lincoln's letter of January 19, 1860, is an exact transcript of the original. The writer further certified "That I requested you not to include this correspondence nor my diary written when a prisoner in Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, in 1865, in your 'Life, Letters and Speeches' or Biography of myself, because I intended to treat the matter fully and fairly as I did in 'The War between the States.' Also that I did authorize the use in both books of the Springfield, Ills., A. L. of November 30, 1860, of my copy reply of Ga. 14 Decr. 1860, of his rejoinder of Decr. 22, 1860, and also of my longer sur-rejoinder of which you made printed and not *fac simile* copy. The originals are yours to use as thought best."

Mr. Ford points out that the four letters mentioned in the next to the last sentence of this certificate were used in Henry Cleveland's *Alexander H. Stephens*, published in 1866, and that they are indubitably genuine. Stephens himself, in his *Constitutional View of the War* published four years later, prints this correspondence a second time. Twelve years later Richard Malcolm Johnston and William Hand Browne published their *Life of Alexander H. Stephens*. Once again the four genuine letters were used.

In the case of each of these books, the authors had free access to the original manuscripts. Cleveland stated that "during the late summer (of 1866) he had free access to all his [Stephens'] papers, with no restrictions upon their use, save in questions as to their present interest to the reader, or of propriety and good taste." Commenting on the Lincoln correspondence in his own book, Stephens asserted that "It was given to the public for the first time in Mr. Cleveland's book. . . . This is the whole of the correspondence the Professor [Norton, a fictitious name] inquired about." Richard Malcolm Johnston was the law partner of Stephens' brother, and was in correspondence with Alexander H. Stephens for a number of years before he and Browne published their biography.

Is it possible that three independent resorts to the original material should fail to bring to light the Lincoln letter of January 19, 1860? Is it possible that Stephens should three times fail to remember its very existence?

The only credible answer to these questions is confirmed by the Crittenden papers in the Library of Congress. The letter of December 22, 1859 from

Lincoln to Crittenden is not among them, nor is there anything to show that any letters passed between Crittenden and Stephens or Crittenden and Lincoln either in 1859 or 1860.

The author of the first biography of Alexander H. Stephens was Henry Cleveland. Stephens' certificate, however, was addressed to Henry Whitney Cleveland, an individual concerning whom no legitimate record seems to exist. But the name of Henry Whitney Cleveland, fictitious or real, is well known at the Henry E. Huntington Library, which acquired the Judd Stewart collection a number of years ago. Mr. R. B. Haselden, Keeper of the Manuscripts, has written that in addition to the certificate from Stephens to Henry Whitney Cleveland, clearly a forgery, the Henry E. Huntington Library has letters from Stephens to Cleveland dated January 10, 1873 and February 22, 1879; from Crittenden to Stephens, January 13, 1860; from Grant to Longstreet, June 14, 1883; and that all these are spurious. In addition, the library has a forged copy of the genuine letter of November 30, 1860 from Lincoln to Stephens, together with two forged marriage licenses of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks and a forged statement regarding Jesse Head signed E. B. Head. These documents Mr. Haselden also attributes to Henry Whitney Cleveland.

The letter from Lincoln to Stephens, dated January 19, 1860, was covered by the certificate of Henry Whitney Cleveland, and is therefore a forgery. The same certificate covered the letter of December 22, 1859, supposedly written by Lincoln to Crittenden. This letter also is spurious.

Everyone Thought This Abraham Lincoln Document Was Authentic

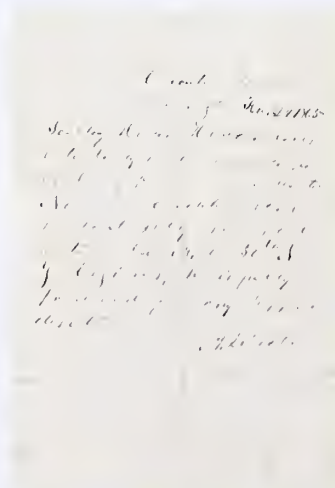
forbes.com

The piece, dated February of 1865 and illustrated below, is famous. It has provenance that a collector or dealer would covet. It came from a renowned collection, one of the great Lincoln archives of the 20th century, compiled by respected private collector Oliver R. Barrett. Barrett's estate sold it at Parke-Bernet Galleries, now Sothebys, in 1939 with no small amount of fanfare. Carl Sandburg went so far as to illustrate this exact piece in his book, *Abraham Lincoln, The War Years*. When you compare Sandburg's published version with this piece, it is clear that they are not just similar. They are identical. Sandburg must have used this very document. It is now published in the *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, a comprehensive list of his known correspondence, which notes its Barrett provenance.

This week, I opened a catalog of a rare book dealer on the West Coast and saw this very letter, published and illustrated once again. I had never seen the original but there it was in front of me, just as Barrett must have seen it nearly a century ago.

This was at first glance an exciting find. Short of seeing Lincoln holding the original, better provenance would be hard to find. Countless people have read Sandburg's book and Lincoln's published works, seen the image Sandburg used. The presumption has always been that it is authentic.

So what is the piece? Lincoln's clemency is lauded today as a sign of his character. Throughout the war, he brought a soft heart to stories of deserters and to sad tales spun by mothers of young men sent to die for the Union cause. He pardoned many, a sign of his compassionate nature. These stories help make him into a three-dimensional figure in the eyes not only of historians but of collectors, who seek out such this personal touch.

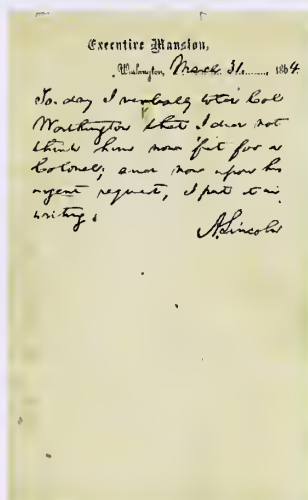


The Lincoln document in question from February of 1865, courtesy of John Windle Antiquarian Bookseller

The document in question purports to demonstrate this legendary clemency. Hiram Hibbard, accused of desertion, would have called on Lincoln in person, as was possible at the time, and received the President's pardon. It reads: "To-day Hiram Hibbard calls voluntarily under apprehension of being punished as a deserter. Now on condition that he faithfully serves out his term Co A. in 50th N. Y. Engineers, he is fully pardoned for any supposed desertion."

Now this piece was in front of me, and immediately I saw a real problem. It just did not look "right." The handwriting weaved and bobbed, up then down, in a way that is uncommon in Lincoln letters. The flow was awkward, stilted, and not customary. It was shaky, and although Lincoln's hand could be shaky, this was irregularly so, which we often see in forgeries. It feels as if the writer is uncertain; some of the letters are not formed correctly or completely. The date seems artificially crunched. There was printed letterhead at the time, but Lincoln did occasionally also hand-write "Executive Mansion." However, here he had either misspelled it or left out the "x" in "Executive." These are just a few of the red flags.

The Raab Collection once had an authentic piece using a similar format once. I illustrate it here for comparison. One has the right feel; the other does not.



An authentically signed piece by Abraham Lincoln using the same format as the above document

There are many tests a document must pass to be comfortably deemed authentic. We examine the paper, ink, context, handwriting, provenance, etc... But the first test is the "feel test." And this one failed within minutes. It did not "feel" right, no matter how much provenance or fame the letter had acquired. We spoke to the scholars at the Papers of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Ill, and others whose opinions we respect. They all concurred, the seller, a respected and knowledgeable book dealer, included: a forgery.

This opened up a host of questions for us. Did this forger have access to an original that no longer exists or is the entire piece fabricated from imagination? Hiram Hibbard appears to have been a real person. He was pardoned, and there are apparently records that attest to this. That would argue for the existence of another, a real version from which the forger worked; but where is that document if the forgery has been accepted as the original for so long? How could so many

knowledgeable people accept this piece as authentic?

This Abraham Lincoln document offers a cautionary tale for anyone interested in the authenticity of anything: never assume. Trust but verify, as President Reagan might say.

In this case, I suppose that the collective acceptance of this apparent forgery as authentic is based on Barrett's provenance, the readiness of all around to trust this respected collector's opinion. This is akin to thinking the more certificates of authenticity the better. That is all "trust" and no "verify."

Never assume. That's a lesson worth learning.

Forgery?

FBI probes alleged theft of Lincoln artifact worth millions

By SUSAN CRITTENDEN
Star Special Correspondent

Terre Haute, Ind. — The inscription on the 12-by-16-inch lithograph of President Abraham Lincoln reads "Yours truly, A. Lincoln." Experts say those words actually were written by the president.

Besides giving it great historical value, that makes the print worth a lot of money — as much as \$2 million.

Linda Goodman, the well known astrologer and author of several best-selling books, says the lithograph was given to her by her great-grandmother when she was 12 years old.

Now, Mrs. Goodman believes a forgery has been substituted for her print in the New York City storage vault where she placed it for safekeeping in 1967.

BECAUSE OF the size of the alleged loss, the FBI is reviewing the case.

Experts who have authenticated the lithograph include Indiana State University professor Ray A. Neff, who examined it for Mrs. Goodman in 1968 to determine whether the inscription was written with pen and ink.

"I certified that the inscription was handwritten with pen and ink and later Emily Driscoll, an authority on Lincoln's signature and a questioned document expert, certified the signature was Lincoln's," Neff said.

Neff, an authority on the Lincoln assassination, was qualified to make the examination by virtue of his extensive background in chemistry, toxicology and forensic and legal photography. He was a consultant for the 1977 motion picture, "The Lincoln Conspiracy."

NEFF EXAMINED the print in New York under close security. "Linda put it right away in the vault when I finished," he recalled. "It's the largest document Lincoln ever signed and is one of a kind. It is irreplaceable."

Mrs. Goodman said she flew to New York from her home in Cripple Creek, Colo., in 1982 to examine the lithograph because Neff "had a phone call from someone in Texas who said he had been offered the Linda Goodman lithograph for a quarter million dollars on the black market. The man asked Ray (Neff) to come and authenticate it for him."

"But Ray knew that my print was not for sale and he called me."



Signed Lincoln lithograph is 'irreplaceable'

A fake has been substituted for original

ACCORDING TO Mrs. Goodman, a vault employee made her wait 10 days to see her picture; he claimed new rules necessitated the waiting period. But that was the only occasion upon which she was required to wait for vault access.

"I now think that gave them time to get the original back," she said.

"I was in a panic when I went with my attorney and another friend to view my lithograph. But the minute I saw it I knew it was mine."

John Myles, manager of Day and Meyer, Murray and Young Corp., where the lithograph was stored, said the only reason for a delay in admitting Mrs. Goodman to the vault would be if she hadn't paid her bill, which is \$25 per month.

"WE HAVE had problems and she has not paid her bill for the past three months," he said.

Mrs. Goodman's next visit to the vault came almost a year later, Sept. 5, 1983, when she took friends with her to look at the lithograph.

"It was dear to me, but I had decided to offer the print for sale. Where can you keep such a valuable item?"

She describes the lithograph as "the long-missing black-and-white proof of the famous Middleton chromo of Lincoln which now hangs in the White House."

On this trip to the vault, "Everything was opposite to the way it was before. We had immediate access, while in 1982 they brought my print out into the reception room and placed it on a table just three or four feet from the front door."

"THIS TIME they took us into the vault and brought out my portfolio. I was sick. I knew at once it was a forgery."

"There were large blots like water stains on the lithograph and

signature was flat. There was shiny brown tape across the back, defacing it."

Following a conversation with Neff, Mrs. Goodman said, she returned to the vault the next day with an infrared light. She was looking for a secret identification mark Neff had placed on the lithograph at the time he authenticated it.

She didn't find any mark, she said, and, "I knew I had seen a second forgery."

On Sept. 21, Neff and FBI Agent Dale Hackbart accompanied Mrs. Goodman to the vault.

"RAY HAD a lot of equipment. When I saw the lithograph, I realized this was yet a different print — the third forgery I had seen. It had light Scotch tape on the back. When I said this, the guard exploded and accused me of making a big to-do over nothing."

"But Ray said this was definitely not the lithograph he authenticated."

According to Mrs. Goodman, the only time she has taken the print away from the vault was when Neff examined it in 1968. Yet her vault file, obtained by the FBI, indicates "I took it out two or three years later, and the signature is not mine. It also says Ray and I returned it by messenger in 1968 and that's wrong."

MRS. GOODMAN recently authorized the FBI to take custody of the lithograph the vault says belongs to her.

Neff calls the alleged theft "just the tip of the iceberg," adding that "\$30 million to \$50 million worth of documents have been fenced, several million dollars worth each year. There are great losses from the Library of Congress, the National Archives and other places. But no one wants to say anything was lost from his library, so little is reported about it."

Neff says the 2nd Avenue firm which stored the lithograph operates "one of the most prestigious vaults in New York City."

VAULT MANAGER Myles said the company, a moving and storage firm some 85 years old, has about 800 storage customers. It operates only one vault, which is for paintings, he said.

The room does not contain lock boxes like a traditional bank vault and the firm does not employ guards, he said.

While nothing is possible," Myles said, "as far as we can tell, this is the print she put there originally."

Storage of the risk of the customer," he added, and the firm does not carry insurance on items.

Although Myles said he has not discussed the case with Mrs. Goodman, "the way I hear she is telling it would be most unusual (to have happened), virtually impossible."

MRS. GOODMAN has written to President Reagan and a dozen senators and congressmen, "drawing their attention to what appear to be the activities of a criminal gang engaged in substituting forgeries for valuable items of Americana, notably

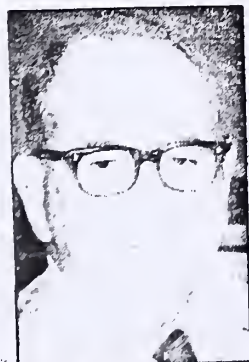
pertaining to Abraham Lincoln and Civil War documents."

Meanwhile, she said she has been working on a book on Lincoln for 17 years and plans to publish it in two years, revealing "shocking historical facts."

To wit: "Lincoln had a love affair with a woman, a Hapsburg. She came here and lived in the home of Middleton

(lithographer who made the print). They had twin daughters. One was Margaret Ellen, or Ella. Eager and her son was my paternal grandfather."

"Ella's identical twin sister was separated from her in infancy. She had a baby boy at the same time that Ella had hers and his name will rock the world. It gets very heavy."



Ray Neff, Indiana professor
Lincoln expert certified original

In the Circuit Court
of Champaign County
March term 1858.

State of Illinois

County of Champaign

} vs - Trespass &
Damage.

J. B. Miller Plaintiff - complainant of William
Evans Defendant on a plea of trespass - to wit -

For that whereas the said plaintiff on the twenty-
fourth day of December one thousand eight hundred
and fifty seven in the county aforesaid a man he
was operating a grist mill at a point on the
Sangamon River known as Minn's Creek - and
plaintiff further avers that the said defendant
was on the said day and date working at a
point farther up the said creek cutting saw logs -
that said defendant threw some saw logs into the
creek which saw logs floated down stream and
broke his the plaintiff's mill dam - Plaintiff then
thru avers that the said breaking of his mill dam
caused him the said plaintiff great loss in produce
and property damage - And plaintiff further avers
that said defendant has no right nor title to the
said creek nor the timber on the land thereof -
that he the said plaintiff asked the said defendant
to repair the loss to his plaintiff's mill dam and the
said defendant refused so to do - And plaintiff avers
that the said Minn's Creek is private property and
he has been operating his grist mill at the said point
for a number of years and that the said defendant
took possession of a parcel of land bordering on the
said creek and proceeded to cut the timber thereon
and float the said timber down stream thereby en-
dangering the owners and operators of mill dams on
the said creek - And plaintiff further avers that at the
proper time so when to float saw logs down stream
without causing danger to property is during the Spring
floods when no grist mills are operating - And
plaintiff says in fact that the said Defendant is
guilty of trespass - and therefore he claims his past
and ask damages in the sum of four hundred
dollars - And he will ever say &c

Witness

March 21st 1858.

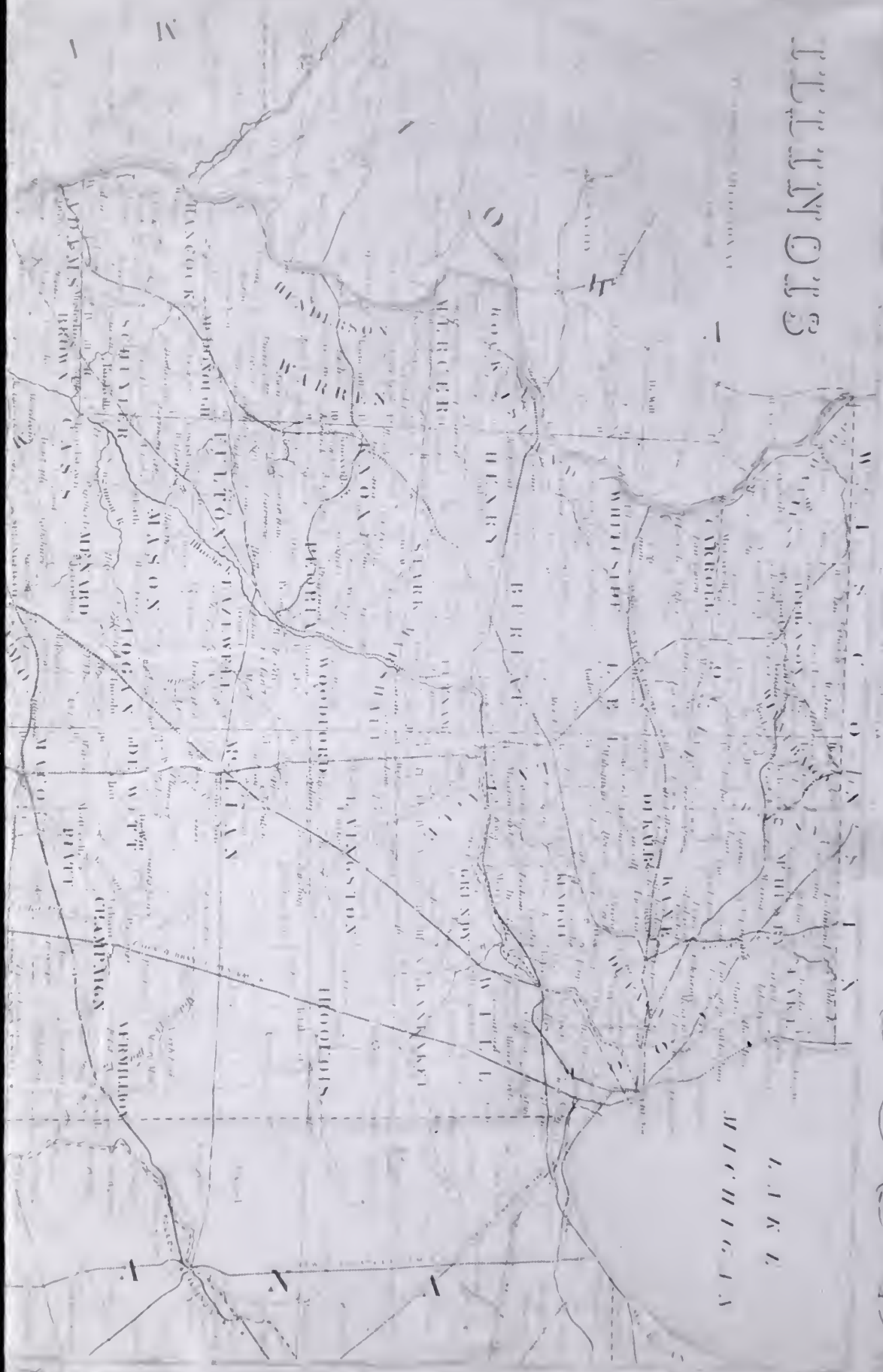
Attest

pp -

ILLINOIS

MISSOURI

L. J. M. L.

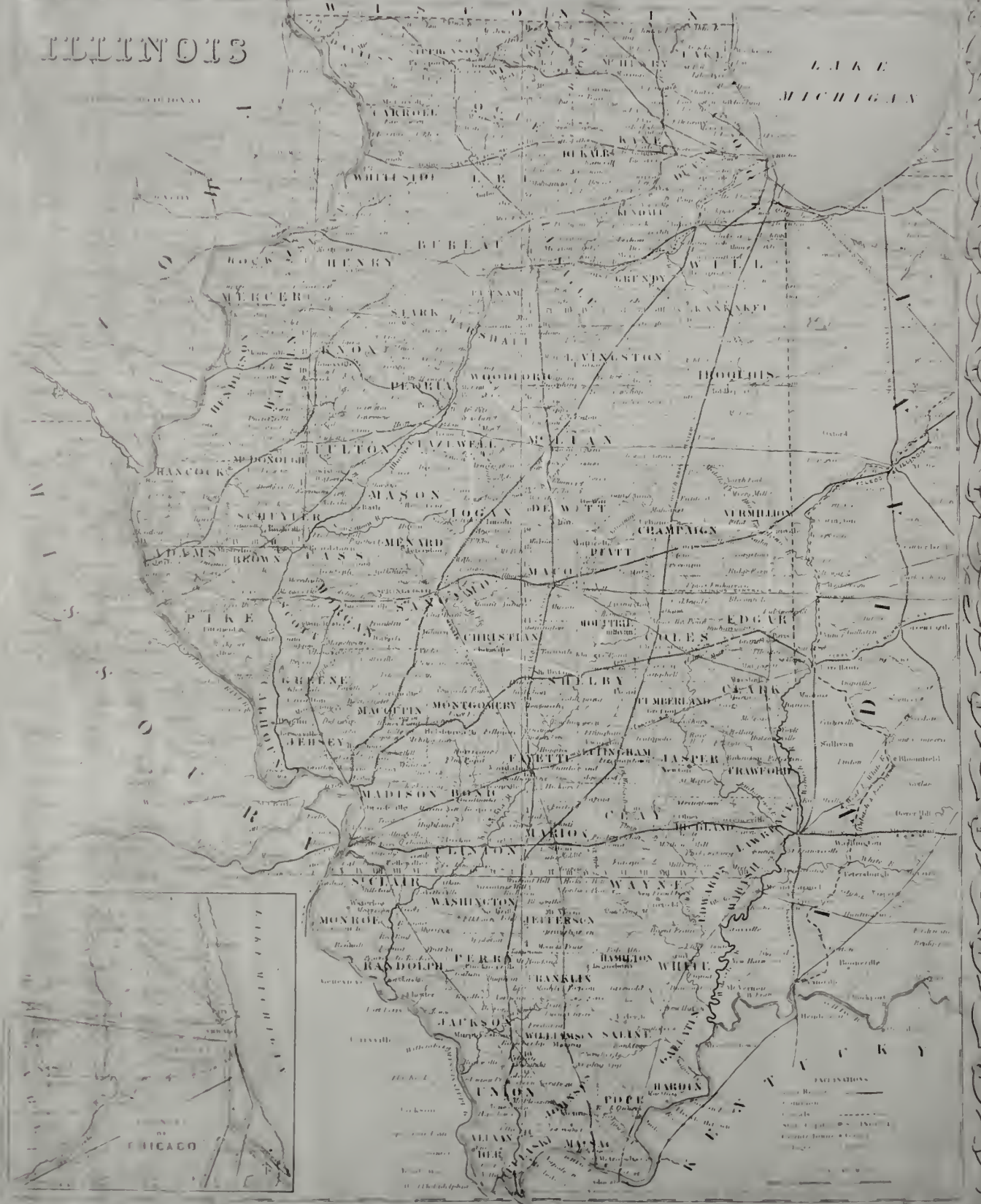


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ILLINOIS

LAKE
MICHIGAN



Jefferson's views would sustain their positions, not knowing the splendid secret of your father's (Rev. James Lemen, Sr.) anti-slavery mission under Jefferson's orders and advice, which saved Illinois and we might say the Northwest Territory, to freedom. In fact, the demands of slavery, if not controlled by its friends, will eventually put the country into a mood that will no longer brook its insolence and greed.

Yours in esteem and confidence,
A. W. SNYDER.

XIII. ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S LETTER

Belleville Weekly Advocate, April 24, 1908

The following letter and remarks from Abraham Lincoln, hitherto unpublished, comprise the fifth letter of the series of old "Pioneer Letters" which Mr. J. B. Lemen of O'Fallon is sending to the Advocate.—Ed.

Springfield, Illinois. March 2, 1857.

Rev. James Lemen,
[O'Fallon, Illinois,]

Friend Lemen: Thanking you for your warm appreciation of my views in a former letter as to the importance in many features of your collection of old family notes and papers, I will add a few words more as to Elijah P. Lovejoy's case. His letters among your old family notes were of more interest to me than even those of Thomas Jefferson, written to your father. Of course they [the latter] were exceedingly important as a part of the history of the "Jefferson-Lemen Anti-Slavery Pact," under which your father, Rev. James Lemen, Sr., as Jefferson's anti-slavery agent in Illinois, founded his anti-slavery churches, among which was the present Bethel church, which set in motion the forces which finally made Illinois a free state, all of which was splendid; but Lovejoy's tragic death for freedom in every sense marked his sad ending as the most important single event that ever happened in the new world.

Both your father and Lovejoy were pioneer leaders in the cause of freedom, and it has always been difficult for me to see why your father, who was a resolute, uncompromising, and aggressive leader, who boldly proclaimed his purpose to make both the territory and the state free, never aroused nor encountered any of that mob violence which both in

St. Louis and Alton confronted or pursued Lovejoy, and which finally doomed him to a felon's death and a martyr's crown. Perhaps the two cases are a little parallel with those of John and Peter. John was bold and fearless at the scene of the Crucifixion, standing near the cross receiving the Savior's request to care for his mother, but was not annoyed; while Peter, whose disposition to shrink from public view, seemed to catch the attention of members of the mob on every hand, until finally to throw public attention off, he denied his master with an oath; though later the grand old apostle redeemed himself grandly, and like Lovejoy, died a martyr to his faith. Of course, there was no similarity between Peter's treachery at the Temple and Lovejoy's splendid courage when the pitiless mob were closing around him. But in the cases of the two apostles at the scene mentioned, John was more prominent or loyal in his presence and attention to the Great Master than Peter was, but the latter seemed to catch the attention of the mob; and as Lovejoy, one of the most inoffensive of men, for merely printing a small paper, devoted to the freedom of the body and mind of man, was pursued to his death; while his older comrade in the cause of freedom, Rev. James Lemen, Sr., who boldly and aggressively proclaimed his purpose to make both the territory and the state free, was never molested a moment by the minions of violence. The madness and pitiless determination with which the mob steadily pursued Lovejoy to his doom, marks it as one of the most unreasoning and unreasonable in all time, except that which doomed the Savior to the cross.

If ever you should come to Springfield again, do not fail to call. The memory of our many "evening sittings" here and elsewhere, as we called them, suggests many a pleasant hour, both pleasant and helpful.

Truly yours,
A. LINCOLN.

XIV. THE LEMEN MONUMENT AND REV. LEMEN'S PART IN EARLY ILLINOIS HISTORY

(From *Belleville Advocate*, Tuesday, April 6, 1909. Clipping in I.B.H.C.—K11)

The monument to be erected by the Baptist people of Illinois and others at the grave of Rev. James Lemen, Sr., near Waterloo in Monroe county, is not only to honor his

Handwritten text in the upper right section of the page, appearing to be a list or series of notes.

Handwritten text in the lower right section of the page, continuing the notes or list.

Handwritten text in the left margin, oriented vertically, possibly serving as a sidebar or index.

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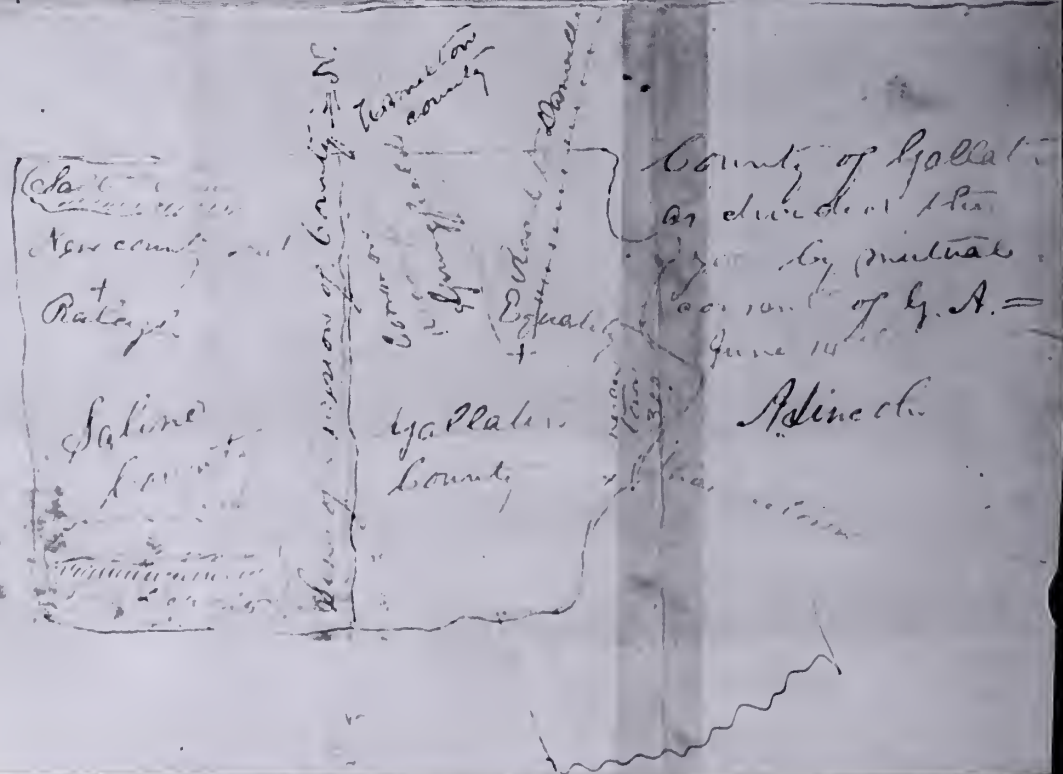
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In 1835 when I was elected
 surveyor of the game on County of
 made a survey for J. Ballou,
 in Gallatin, at that time state
 the people were the only
 making in division of the
 County, there being no Railroad,
 and on the west border on the
 Williamson side survey was made
 prevalent, the west side of
 Sharnce town. The west side 355
 place, in Illinois, and nearly
 of them were in Gallatin and
 counties.

Wm. H. Herndon
 Sept. 27, 1847



An act of the General Assembly - June 1847
the county of Gallatin was divided to form a new
one the counties of Gallatin and Blaine and a new
county seat has been established at Piquette in the
new county of Blaine - The division was made from
north to south and the county seat of Gallatin County
remains at Piquette - Saline is not in the 8th judicial
district; it is in the 12th judicial district - The
district is composed of Sangamon, Logan, Tazewell,
Woodford, De Witt, Peoria, Champaign, Vermilion, Edgar,
Shelby, Macoupin, and Christian - Starting at Sangamon
at the June term the usual line of travel was from
Springfield in Sangamon to Springfield in Logan, Pontiac to
Hemont in Tazewell, then to Havana in Woodford;
Havana to Bloomington in Peoria; here we were
stopped though it is not in the 8th D. - Bloomington
to De Witt in Champaign; De Witt to Piquette in Peoria;
Monticello to Havana in Champaign; Havana to
Danville in Vermilion; Danville to Paris in Edgar;
Paris to Sullivan (through Cairo) in Macoupin; Sullivan
to Shelby in Shelby; Shelby to Taylorville in Christian
and from Christian to Sangamon - In response to your
inquiry I have marked in red on this map the 8th
district - the new county of Saline will of course
change the map, but as no other one was at
at the present time

Springfield

Lincoln

Sep. 2nd 1847 Wm. H. Herndon

In the Circuit Court of
Sangamon County
Dec. Term 1858

State of Illinois
County of Sangamon ss.

Plea of Trespass &c.
Fraud &c.

For that whereas Melchor Edwards, Plaintiff -
complains that Elias Mc., Defendant did on
the twenty-fourth day of September one thousand
eight hundred and fifty-eight in the said county
of Sangamon sell and convey one parcel of
Property situated in the said county to wit: one
hundred and of land - one building known as
a dwelling-house - one barn - one shed, &c. - Plaintiff
avows that he paid the said defendant, the sum
of money of one thousand dollars and that the
said defendant received and accepted the said
sum of money, in good faith - Plaintiff further
avows that the said defendant sold and convey-
ed the said property to him without having any
title or right to the said property - Plaintiff further
avows that on the 2nd day of October one thousand
eight hundred and fifty-eight the Sheriff of the
said County delivered to him an order to vacate the
said land and interests, & having no legal title to
possess it -

And Plaintiff says, in fact that the said defend-
ant is guilty of fraud and therefore he brings his
suit - And he prays, the Court &c.

Lincoln and Hinson



[Faint, illegible markings]

In Sangamon Circuit Court
 To The Honorable Judges of the Circuit Court of
 Sangamon County

Copy of Affidavit of Plaintiff

Before me a Notary Public of the city of Springfield
 county of Sangamon, State of Illinois appeared William
 Edwards with his counsel Abraham Lincoln and
 being duly sworn depose that the statements in
 the attached declaration are to the best of his
 knowledge and belief true.

Attest:

Susan Edwards
 Bernard C. Miller
 Abraham Lincoln

L.R. Matheny
 Notary Public

Seal

The above is a true copy of the above and
 filed with declaration of Plaintiff for December
 term of Court

Respectfully submitted
 A. Lincoln

Springfield, Dec. 1st 1858

any money
 and interest with
 the Court
 Dec. 1st 1858

William M. Edwards
 and J. C. Lyon
 for Defendant

Abraham Lincoln
 for Plaintiff

December Term

Edwards
 vs
 Miller
 Decker
 Plaintiff
 vs
 Edwards
 Defendant
 1858

Sangamon C.C.

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Sale by Chi. Books & Art
Auction Feb, 1937

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ILL. 60601

The Lincoln National Foundation,
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

MEMO

Dear Sirs:

I obtained many old books from my family's library in Indiana recently.

Among them are, for example, the Methodist Episcopal Discipline for 1843, Titus Bennett's Arithmetic (1829), and some of which have in their fly-leaves the written signature "A. Lincoln." My paternal grandfather was Lincoln's client.

I will dispose of much of this library. If you are interested, kindly advise, and I will correspond anent the matter.

Very truly,

E. Rogers
427 Fleming Bldg
Des Moines, Iowa.

References (Indiana) Judge B.C. Jenkins, Circuit Court, Gary, Ind.
C. Ridgley, Attorney, Gary, Ind.

*This man is sure to have done some fine
things and could not be overlooked and the attorney's office at the
Ft. Wayne, Ind. on Feb 22, 1944 while I was in Des Moines - Refer to Sam Perkins*

ER

Floyd Jones

a Housewifery expert of Chickamauga
Ohio

Friend of Mr. Rawlance

Rich Hanks

foe. What glory then shall encircle the brow of Byron, who far away from home fought against the brutal Moslem that he may secure the liberties of Leonidas descendants? And what tribute of grateful praise shall be rendered to La Fayette by future ages: for this is the man who, when in youthful days, rode over the wide wave of the Atlantic, that he might rescue from the thralldom of Cromwells countrymen the American Colonies.

E. A. Park.

The Robert Spring Washington Forgeries

6. An old Broad Side, published by William Evarts Benjamin in New York about 1885.

One of the most curious things in the history of autograph collecting, is the varied and peculiar career of Robert Spring, the celebrated forger of letters and signatures of Washington, Franklin, Livingston, Lord Nelson, and others, and who successfully marketed his spurious productions in America and England during a period of nearly twenty years. Coming to this country as an adventurer, about 1840, after various vicissitudes, he travelled extensively through Pennsylvania and the Southern States as a book-peddler, selling "Binns' Justice", a work in great demand, and from which he earned an honest living, a career which he finally abandoned, and settled down in Baltimore, as a dealer in rare books and autographs.

His great opportunity however, and the event which suggested his forgeries, occurred about the year 1855 when at the sale of the papers of an old Baltimore banking house, he found a fortune in the shape of a quantity of checks of General Washington on the Alexandria Bank, and on a bank of discount and deposit in Washington, and with them many business letters of Washington's, and also a large amount of blank foolscap of English manufacture such as was used in this country until after the Revolution.

There were hundreds of the checks, and these he immediately mailed to banks throughout the United States and Canada, stating how they came into his possession, giving references as to his character, and desiring the recipient to send in return a check for such a sum as in his judgment the document was worth. He usually received a check for from \$10 to \$20, and in this way earned a regular income with very little labor.

But the checks could not last forever, and as the old foolscap was at hand he commenced his series of remarkable forgeries in a most simple but ingenious manner. He used an old fashioned washstand, with a round hole in the top in which the wash bowl was placed, laid over the hole a pane of glass, and upon that a genuine Washington signature, and over all a sheet of blank paper. Then darkening the room and placing a lamp beneath the glass, he easily traced the signature on the blank paper, as the original was illuminated perfectly. In order to imitate the faded color of the ink he was counterfeiting, he tried many methods in vain, until he mixed with his ink cakes of Osbourne's American water color paint, and to give his documents an appearance of age and of wear at the folds, he was accustomed to fold them for a few days between his stocking and the sole of his shoe. Having now an unlimited supply of checks, he sent many to England and began to indite whole letters in Washington's hand, and being a thorough scholar as to Washington and his history, it is said that he never made an error as to time, place or person.

His Washington letters were often sold at large prices, especially to Englishmen, and as he never conducted his business in his own name, but accompanied his forgeries with letters written in a woman's hand, his receipts were enormous. He wrote usually as an impoverished Virginia lady who had found a letter of Washington's among her father's papers and was anxious to dispose of it for what she could realize.

In this manner Spring claimed to have imposed upon the Prince of Wales, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thiers, Guizot, the Emperor Napoleon, Prince Metternich, and others equally well known. He became at last a perfect imitator of Washington's handwriting, and being a man of fertile brain produced many most interesting and characteristic letters, as he had so familiarized himself with Washington's methods of thought and expression, that his letters had

every appearance of genuineness.

At last, having exhausted the American market, he went during the Civil War to England, and lived in luxury, until, hearing that some of his work had been detected in Philadelphia, he crossed the channel to Paris and there did an extensive business in the way of forgeries of Franklin's letters and signatures. This line he pursued until Franklin autographs became a drug in the market. It is said that while many of Franklin's letters were of a nature not calculated for publication, Spring in his forgeries imitated this tone with exaggerated impurity.

Returning to this country at the close of the War, and establishing himself in Philadelphia as a dealer in old books, he began to swindle in less artistic ways.

We learn from an interesting article in the Philadelphia "Press" of September 20th, 1885, that he wrote letters begging for pecuniary aid under the name of Fannie Jackson, a daughter of Stonewall Jackson, which he for the most part addressed to English holders of Confederate bonds. He also answered advertisements in English papers inquiring for some lost member of a family. In his letters Spring represented himself as a poor but benevolent person who had found the missing man sick and in need of funds, and he frequently received liberal remittances. For these operations he was finally arrested in November, 1869, and convicted of obtaining money under false pretences. On account of technical errors his conviction was of very doubtful legality, and he escaped with a few weeks' imprisonment.

On his release Spring went to England for a time, and on his return confessed to an intimate friend that he had made \$4000 by circulating forged letters of Lord Nelson. He died in great poverty in 1876, aged 63 years.

Description Of Dr. Davis' Collection Of Spring Forgeries As Arranged And Mounted In An Album.

A most interesting series of papers belonging to Spring was preserved by R. Colton Davis, the noted autograph collector of Philadelphia, long a patron of Spring's in the way of business, and a friend to him in his adversity. It embraces no less than thirteen of the forged Washington letters and checks, accompanied in two instances by letters of Emma Harding and Harriet Copley, the two names under which Spring carried on most of his correspondence. There are several of these letters which apparently were never sent to any one, and various envelopes with the Montreal post mark, addressed to prominent Philadelphians, which covered Copley letters. Mrs. Copley purported to be an English widow residing in Canada in destitute circumstances, and the letters are models of ingenuity in composition, and written in a cultivated and attractive hand. There are seven bogus signatures of Philip Livingston and two of Richard Henry Lee, which, like the Washington letters, if taken singly, are so well done that they would deceive almost any one.

There are several original drafts of the Samuel Hawley letters, and those of the alleged invalid in the Hospital of the Philadelphia jail, which led to Spring's arrest and conviction in 1869, and various letters to Dr. Davis describing his searches through old colonial houses in Virginia and Maryland for interesting family autographs of the Dickensons, Ridgleys, Claytons, and others. Several letters written about the time of his conviction allude feelingly to the disgrace he had brought upon himself, although his conduct at his trial indicated no regret whatever. He may be said to have "gloried in his shame," and seemed quite vain of his accomplishments and deceit, for he stated as to the Washington letter in Independence Hall, long the pride and veneration of the Philadelphia collectors, that he made it years before, and that it was one of the worst ones he ever executed.

His lists of bankers and collectors are numerous, and so are letters from his wife and daughters written before and after his death, complaining of his ill treatment of them and of their poverty, and appealing to Dr. Davis for aid. The last letter of Mrs. Spring encloses to Dr. Davis all the papers left by her husband, for which she says she will gladly accept fifty cents if they are of any value to the Doctor.

There is an interesting certificate as to Spring's good character, signed in 1875 by eight of his neighbors, a letter from James Buchanan declining to supply

Spring with certain autographs, and several others relating to the forger's misdeeds and conviction. A great quantity of newspaper clippings give the details of Spring's forgeries from the time they first came to light in 1864 to the final grand exposure in 1869, which left Spring, a man of wonderful abilities, a wanderer and a dependent on charity, until he quitted this life in 1876. Dr. Davis carefully preserved his death notice.

The Battle Of Bunker Hill By A Revolutionary Soldier

7. EMERSON, SAMUEL. A. L. S. 4to 2 closely written pages, with address leaf to his son George B. Emerson, Kennebunk, Sept. 8th, 1840. A most remarkable letter for an nonagenarian. A clear fine hand. 11.00.

We quote the greater part of this fine letter:

Kennebunk, Sept. 8, 1849.

My dear George—

Your favour came duly to hand, but not before I had shipped on board the Nile a barrel of apples for your Mary and another for Olivia.—Capt. Ward had orders to see them trucked to your house and Mr. Norris' at my expense. So you see that you have nothing to do with them but to help eat them. I thank you for your kind invitation to attend the Bunker hill, but Mr. Sewall was gone before I received the letter and, strange to tell, I had not inclination strong enough to tempt me to leave my old Sweetheart alone and to leave home at this interesting period of the "ingathering the fruits of the latter harvest". I cannot remember a single old soldier alive to take by the hand on that celebrated field so deeply stained with the blood of my comrades and 1079 of our foes! Had old General Putnam been as brave as when he stormed the wolf-den, we should have held the ground and sacrificed hecatombes more of the of tyranny. Then thousand rounds of ammunition would have saved the lives of 800 of as brave fellows as ever fought under Leonidas, at the streights of Thermopyla, and Prescott would have achieved richer lawreels than Jackson in the defence N. O. Prescott has never had the honour he so richly deserved; Gen. Warren was the first man that fell on the memorable 17th of June 1775, he showed a good disposition and a brave heart, but was cut down before he began to fight. I was then just the age that Lincoln is now, and by a singular circumstance, was prevented being in the Regiment when detached upon that service. I have wished a thousand times that I had been in that tremendous conflict; to see Col. Prescott stand undaunted, as the British column moved up; "don't pull a trigger till I give the word, then level your guns below the waistband of the breeches". The word fire was pronounced and the whole front platoon bit the dust: the second fared the same fate, on the second fire; they broke and ran down the hill while the yankees were decking the ground with red-coats and doting the splendid carpet with plumed helmets! Scared a single man, of our regiment, was wounded 'till after the last bullet was shot and the intrepid Commander was forced to order the retreat, for want of ammunition. I have heard Col. Prescott a curious anecdote which happened just at the time when he ordered the retreat, or more properly, flight:—a little fellow, whose nose was bleeding sat down under the breast work, with his last charge in his gun; a british Officer jumped upon the wall, right over his head swung his sword and exclaimed, in triumph, "by G. we've won it; the little fellow pointed his gun to his breast and poured its contents thro' his heart! As the Officer fell, the boy exclaimed—by G. you've lost it! But George I am growing young: I must stop this career or run off on foot, like an old soldier of the revolution. Adieu, my Son, may you live long to enjoy the blessings purchased by the blood of true Patriots of the last Century.— Your own Father— Samuel Emerson.

A Loyalists Cry From Salem

8. PICKERING, TIMOTHY, Father of Timothy, Colonel in the Revolution, secretary in Washington's Cabinet, A. L. S. Large Double Folio, Salem, June 6th, 1777. A REMARKABLE APPEAL FOR LOYALTY TO THE KING, with references to Tea Tax, Slave Trade, Colonial Paper, Money Abuses, Boston Mobs, etc, etc. ONE OF THE MOST ASTONISHING LOYALIST DOCUMENTS

LEFT US FROM THE ENEMIES OF THE YOUNG REPUBLIC. It also is a glaring example how the Revolution split families in opposite camps. How must Col. Pickering have felt, reading this appeal of his father, while in camp, risking his life for the independence of these very 13 States. 127.50.

Multitudes, May Err.

To My Brethren in the 13 United American Colonys or States.

I have lived in the reigns of three Kings, who have always Protected me. And I have all along Paid them a moderate Tribute, as you have done. I never had any Reason to be Jealous, or Afraid of Oppression. Parliaments Readiness to Repeal duty acts of late Years Proves How Very Desirous they were of living in friendship with the Colonys. The Threpenny Duty upon Tea, its True, they Did not Repeal, but then they first took of a Shilling in England! Its . . . We Should look at home to find oppression for our Northern Governments have been obliged to make Penall laws to Suppress it, but to little or no effect, it has been so Great and Generall.

And How have We for many Years Oppressed Affricans With Slavery. Especially in our Southern Governments. Coveting and Stealing the Children or Receiving them of those that do, has all along been the Occasion of Civill Wars in Africa; now We have Civill Wars, the Same measure We meet, is measuring to us again. Our Slavers are Desired to Pay their Africans for their Past Services and to let them Goe free. Jer. 12-13. Isa 58.

Forty or fifty Thousand, Widows and Fatherless Children, (with many others) Suffered most Grievous Wrongs in our Four New England Governments, from the Year 1710 to 1750, by the Breaches of the Publick Faith with Respect to our then Paper money. This may be Called Devouring Widows Houses. Making that money a Tender in all Payments Had the Same mischeivous Effects as using Divers Weights. This was Framing mischeif by a Law. When a People Chose Such men of their Representatives for many years together who Violate the Publick faith in an affair So materiall as this! They Deserve to Loose their Country. Annanias and Saphira lost their lives for their Falsity about a little money.

Those of you who are bible Readers Have taken notice of a night mob in Gibrak of Benjamin. That tribe for Justifying their Wicked Brethren, was almost all Cut off by the other Tribes, after the other tribes were Suitibly Humbled. Wee have lately Had Two night mobs in Boston who Committed Burglary to a Very High Degree; and We had no Majistrates in the Massts Province but were Either unable or unwilling to Punish the Sinners! Was it not then the Kings Duty as a nursing Father, to take up the Cause in behalf of the Suffers. But How have We like the Benjamites Resisted Him, Instead of assisting Him! My Brethern Wee Keep our Eye on our affliction A Providential Punishment, not on the Sin that Occasions it, and this Undoes us. Our Clergy I think in Generall are like those Wee Read of Isaiah 56.10.

I had like to have forgot the Declaritory Act, that Froward Criticks Have made such a Clamour about, Its like the Decree that Came out from Augustus Cesar that all the World Should be Taxed. All Such Declarations must be understood with their Proper Limitations.

Its Easy to Show How Very much We are like the Scribes and Pharisees in Straining at Gnats and Swallowing Camells for if a Poor Theif Steals He is Publickly Whipt, or if a Young Woman a Comunicant in our Churches Happens to have a Child by a man that Promises Her Marriage and Runs way, She must Stand up like a malefactor before the Church and Cry Peccavi, or be Excommunicated, while Great men, and Great Bodys of men are little noticed when they trample Upon Both Law and Gospel. From Yr Friend Timo-Pickering Salem Near Boston, June 6 1777.

Journal Of Travels Principally By Water From Albany To The Seneca Lake By Elkanah Watson In 1784

9. MANUSCRIPT JOURNAL. WATSON, ELKANAH, Prominent Figure during the American Revolution. 4to, about 135 pages, with additional material, such as letters, maps, anotations, etc, etc, THESE BEING THE ORIGINAL MANU-

This is a letter Lincoln wrote to the widow of Alexander Hamilton after he (Hamilton) had got killed while fighting a duel with Aaron Burr. and Hamilton's son got killed in an accident a short time later.

O thou desconsolate widow
robbed so cruelly robbed
in so short a time
of both husband and son
What could be the plenitude
of thy suffering. Could
we approach thee
gladly would we drop
the tear of sympathy
and pour into thy
fleeing bosom the
balm of consolation
Signed
A. Lincoln

Champaign Circuit
Court

March Term 1858

Miller }
vs }
Evans } *Chapman &
 Damages
 4000*

Lincoln over
Verdict on
for Plaintiff

*Declaration filed March 1st 1858
with clerk ~~attached~~ *affidavit**

By Act of the General Assembly in 1847, the county of Saline was divided to form the counties of Callatin and Saline. The new county seat of Equality was established, it is now Shawneetown. The county seat at Saline was Raleigh as it is now. In 1835 when deputy surveyor of Sangamon County I made a survey for J. Calhoun, and at time there was talk of dividing the county. When travelling the 8th. judicial district there was seldom cause to go to those counties as they were in the 12th. judicial district. I have marked in red the route usually taken, that is when we started at the June term of court. From Springfield we went by R. R. to Postville in Logan county. Postville to Tremont in Tazewell. Tremont to Metamora. Metamora in Woodford we usually went to Bloomington, in McLean, though Bloomington was not on the 8th. Circuit. Bloomington to Clinton in Dewitt Urbana to Danville in Vermillion, Danville to Paris in Edgar, Paris across Coles, 50 miles to Sullivan in Moultrie, Sullivan to Shelbyville in Shelby, Shelbyville to Taylorsville in Christian - From Christian county we went home. Sometimes I would have a case in Menard or Coles, but they were not in the 8th judicial district, and Judge Davis never presided at any other but the 8th.

A. Lincoln

Springfield,

June 1st. 1856

Wm. H. Herndon.

7. Lincoln Forgery. We offer a rather unusual forgery of Lincoln worthy of being in any collection of Lincolnia. It is interwoven with a Map of Illinois, about 9" x 12". This map was drawn and published by F. Lucas Jr., Balt. The map has several colors, but a portion is outlined in red and reads, "Eighth Judicial Circuit". In the upper left corner is written "Outlining the 8th Circuit. A. Lincoln. Sept. 1, 1856". In another corner the following is written, "Wm. H. Herndon. August 10, 1854. Map of Illinois showing the Fox Nation and Boundary Lands..."

On back of map at top appears: "This is the only reliable map I can find at

PHILADELPHIA AUTOGRAPH COMPANY - 1815 Spruce St. - Philadelphia 5

page 2

present. "Mr. H. Herndon." Then appears a whole page of details in the handwriting of Lincoln - over 250 words written by Lincoln, excuse us, we mean written by the fellow who pretended he was Lincoln. It is dated Urbana Sept. 2, 1856. Addressed to A. J. Mathewey, Esq. Monticello, Ill. We know of the existence of one more copy of this item in a Southern Museum and hope they didn't pay too much. The one we offer was offered to us at one time for \$500. We thought it genuine but priced too high. We acquired it later and then learned it was a forgery. WAS OUR FACE RED. We made a deal with the fellow who sold it to us who convinced us he had been a victim also. We told the Lincoln Herald, published by Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tenn. about our forgery as they had once written up the story of the first similar forgery. In their Dec. 1947 issue they comment, inter alia: "...Why do forgers duplicate their masterpieces..?". Price \$75

Philadelphia Auto Company.

Detached from above

History of Scotland ¹⁸⁴⁷ by Arkham
supposed to have been autographs
by Lincolns.

Forged letter ?

To Rev James Lums

Mar 2 1857

May 21

Thank you for your warm approval

Leander Pitts to
John Hawks 1842

See Week
The Real Leander

FORGERY

"What is a forgery? It is the
bringing forward something in
writing or in printing purporting
to be of certain effect when it is
altogether untrue."

Lincoln v. Chaulson

Sept. 17, 1858

Br. & Co. p. 15

Known Forgeries

To

George E. Pickett Feb 22 1842

Rev James Lemay Mar 2 1857

John J. Crittenden July 19, 1860

Cole E. Taylor Banking & Currency

Lord Spencer

[^]
Sickle Fur Series

See Lesson 1951-21

116, 117,

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Forgery

"The fraudulent making or alteration of a writing to the prejudice of another man's right," (English Law) is an old and wide-spread literary villainy from which Lincolniana is not exempt.

Spurious documents which have been published in recognized collections should be carefully noted. Among these are letters from Lincoln to John T. Crittenden, Dec. 22, 1859; and to Alexander H. Stephens, Jan. 19, 1860; both of which are given by Tracy. (Tr. 120, 123) Hertz gives the forged letter purporting to have been written by Lincoln in '53 to Maecdonio Melloni of Modena, Italy. (H2. II, 622). Issues of the N.Y. Times, ^{20,} Nov. 21, 22, 23, carry a detailed discussion of this document. (Cf. also, DAB. XI, 2586)

By far the most famous collection of Lincoln forgeries is a series of letters and other documents concerning Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, the publication of which was begun by the Atlantic Monthly, Dec. 1928. Owing to the seeming importance of the letter, the Atlantic "departed" from a tradition of seventy years against the use of "illustrations" by printing a picture of "Lincoln the Lover" on the cover page, and ^{full-page} "manuscript reproductions". The explanatory matter was written by

3
Forgeries.

List somewhere of
most important
Italian letters to Stephens

DAB 11, 2582 Thib.

In December, 1928, began the publica-
tion of a series of Lincoln letters,
with explanatory articles by Wilson

Frances Minor in whose hands ^{was}

this treasure of love missives ^{between L. &}

~~was~~ ^{alleged to have been preserved} The

January, 1929 batch of letters termi-

nated the issue, which ^{has} aroused Lincoln

scholar. ^{anywhere} Worthington Ford, former chief

of the Division of Manuscripts of the

Library of Congress, and Editor of the publication

of the Mass. Historical Soc., at once pronounced

the letters forgeries, as reported in

the N.Y. Times, Dec. 2, 1928, with fac-similes. ^{the}

a spicy editorial of Jan. 23, 1929 discusses the subject further.

Paul M. Angle in the Atlantic, Apr. 1929
proves the falsity of the documents without
question.

The story of the origin of these ~~most~~
famous of f. forgeries, ^{and the} ~~is~~ ^{the} ~~history~~
of them is known,

and an article was prepared telling

34
the whole story but this was not published
out of deference to the "unfortunate
people" involved. ^{It is to be} hoped that someday the
Editors of Atlantic, may follow the precedent
set by the "Adventures of a Document", of
the June, 1934 issue, and give to Lincoln
Students the "Adventures of Some Forgers",
which, I guess, would have not less
of general interest.

5

The N.Y. Times, Feb. 8, 1934 described
current forgeries of Lincoln letters
of exceptional clearness, ~~which~~
~~announced by the N.Y. Times,~~
Feb. 8, 1934 in an article showing facsimiles
of genuine & spurious documents. Concerning
these forgeries, Thomas F. Madigan,
an authority on Lincoln autographs,
writes: "One would almost-
think that - Robert Spring, the
notorious author of Washington
autographs about the time of
the Civil War, had come
back to life and turned his
attention to Lincoln. These forgeries
certainly compare favorably with
Spring's most expert work."

New and valuable Lincoln
documents may be discovered

on the Analysis of Science
aims to guide the student
to the most

in the future but forgery is
now so prevalent that every doc-
ument must be well attested, and
passed upon by competent authority,
before it can be accepted as
genuine.

13. *Antony - Foreriss.*

See
D.A.B.
XI, 2586

{ Selling to Rev. Crittenden Dec. 22, 1859
R.H. Stepten Jan. 19, 1860
Melloni. (Halian).
The Minor Collection

